

Patchwork News

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 12th March Term 1 Issue 1 Telephone: 9756 7463 OSHClub: 1300 395 735 / 0400 708 773 Email: <u>the.patch.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au</u> Website: <u>www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au</u>

Dates to Remember

March

Wed 17 th	Garden Team Meeting 7pm – all welcome
Fri 19 th	Leadership Assembly - Mayor
Mon 22 nd	Pyjama Day – Whole School (no cost)
Tue 30th	School Council
Tue 30 th	PatchFest21 Meeting 7pm – all welcome

Bell Times

8:55am Warning Bell 9:00am Learning Begins 11-11:45am First Break 11:45-12pm Lunch eating time 2-2:30pm Second Break 3:30 Dismissal

Please come along to our assemblies each Friday 9.10am

April

Thurs 1 st	Last Day of Term – early 2:30pm dismissal
Mon 19 th	First day of Term 2
Wed 21 st	STOMP The Beat session. All years.
Fri 23 rd	CURRICULUM DAY – No Students
Mon 26th-Wed 28 th	3/4 CAMP – Phillip Island
Tue 27 th	School Council
Wed 22 nd	STOMP The Beat session. All years.
Thurs 29 th	Drumming Incursion – All Years.

May

Sat 1 st	Whole School Garden Working Bee
Mon 3 rd	SCHOOL PHOTOS
Wed 5 th	STOMP The Beat session. All years.
Mon 11 th -Thur 14 th	NAPLAN. Years 3 & 5
Mon 17 th	Education Week
Wed 19 th	STOMP Disco Fundraiser. Year 6
Thur 20 th	Open Morning - Prep 2022
Mon 24 th -Fri 28 th	Sex Education. All Years.
Tue 25 th	School Council

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Welcome to all parents and a special welcome to our new families, I hope that your time at The Patch is a rewarding one and that you will acquire many great memories and friendships whilst you are here. If you have been at the school for some time and see a new face in the yard, please make them feel welcome, extend a hand of friendship and allow them to feel included in our community and school life. One of our newest faces is the welcoming of our new Wellbeing Support person Anne Lawry as introduced in the School Council news last week. Anne will be working with us over the next 2 years on Tuesday and Friday.

On Tuesday 23rd February we farewelled Joanne Cheong, Nicole Murphy, Elke Evan, Stacey Polkington and Jennie Simpson from our School Council. Their commitment, time and energy has been appreciated and they will be greatly missed. We welcome back Becks Wapshott, Angel Brunette, Ange Ellis, Joanne Rouse, Michelle Rayner, Alesha Sangster and Karen Robinson who have returned. We also welcome our newly elected School Councillors of Olivia Cozzolino, Briony Mackenzie, Ilana Paynes and Michaela Bourke. We thank these parents for volunteering and giving of their time to help the continued improvement and growth of our school. You will have read our new monthly School Council Report last week introducing our School Council members for 2021.

At The Patch Primary School we encourage and value parental and community support. We have many opportunities for parent, grandparents and friends to be involvement within the school: classroom assistance, assisting at Working Bees, PatchFest, camps and excursions and of course, being a member of one of our many parent committees who do such an amazing job of caring for our school, developing community and raising funds for the school and giving the children some wonderful experiences.

There continues to be a strong interest in our school and kindergarten with parents booking tours, even at this early stage of the year. We have already accepted enrolments for 2022 and remind parents of students with siblings who will commence Prep next year or who have 3 or 4-year-olds to please enrol as soon as possible. If you know of any family or friends who may be interested in joining me for a tour, please encourage them to contact our school Office as soon as possible to book an appointment.

I would also like to remind parents of the code of conduct for the community and parents on the website. We are always happy to assist you and understand your frustrations at time but we are here to help, not hinder and I would ask that you treat staff respectfully. We don't set out to intentionally upset or hinder your children or yourselves, we are human and are able to change our processes if they are incorrect. You will often hear me say we can't change what we do not know about. Sometimes we are unable to because of our accountability to the department.

Please remember that if you are picking up your children early to sign them out and deliver the note to the class teacher. We understand that at times you are rushed but for the safety of our students this is a necessary process. Our long bell in the morning is working well and students and teachers are ready to work by 9.00 am.

We have 4 weeks until the term finishes. Make sure you read all our student news as we are hoping this will be a regular feature in our newsletter.

Thankyou everyone for a sensational start to the school year. Have a wonderful 2021 - Patch Fest will be here before we blink!

Debra Herrmann Principal debra.herrmann@education.vic.gov.au



HOME & SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Our teaching and support staff are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure all students can achieve their highest potential. We recognise that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our student's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time ready for the day's learning program
- 2) Completes all homework given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life

If you have concern that is worrying you please contact us for an appointment so we can spend time talking with you rather than rushing to class or to a meeting. Michelle's and my door is always open should any parent need to chat. Our number one priority is the engagement, wellbeing, achievement and care of all students at The Patch Primary School and we are always happy to hear feedback on the improvements we are making and what we can do to better assist our students.

Of course, your child's class teacher is your first port-of-call. Should the need arise to speak directly to a staff member; you can contact us and we will organise an appointment at a mutually convenient time either before school or after school. Please allow us time during school hours as we concentrate our efforts on the children. It is very important that we devote our attentions and 'duty of care' to our school's students throughout each school day.

ASSEMBLIES

Our assemblies, begin at 9:10 on Friday mornings and are currently outside on the Basketball Court weather permitting. You are certainly welcome to attend, to find out what is happening around the school and to give a hearty cheer to those students that receive the "student of the week awards" and also our choir and musical performances. Please come along if you can, as your child gets a great thrill from having you there.

WORKING WITH CHILDRENS CHECK

We encourage all parents to obtain a Working with Children's Check that will allow you to be very involved in your child's education. These checks are free for volunteers and will allow you to be involved in as many school events as you require. Once you have your WWCC, please come to the office so we can photocopy this and we will add your name to our list of parents who have a current WWCC check.

INTRODUCING

Anne Lawry – Wellbeing Support

As I'm new to The Patch Primary School, I thought I'd provide a little bit of information about me as a means of introducing myself.

I grew up in a family from Melbourne, the eldest of four children. A series of particularly formative experiences occurred during my primary school years. During the mid 1960's, my teacher parents decided to go with Australian Volunteers Abroad to work in a boys secondary boarding school in Tanzania for two years. I was aged 8-10 years old and attended a school of over 1,000 students where my brother and I were the 'odd ones out'. During the school holidays our family went on safari and visited many of the student's villages from throughout Tanzania and Kenya. Travelling back to Melbourne our family spent several weeks journeying across India and also visited Nepal, Bangkok and Singapore. Although my formal education suffered during this period, the informal education I received was extremely enriching.

As things turned out, in total I experienced six changes to my primary schooling and three to my secondary. This also prepared me for life as an adult.

I am married to Grant and we have four adult offspring, three daughters and one son. Our daughters are all married and our son still lives at home. We have seven precious grandchildren aged 2-12 years old.

Grant and I continue to support our son who thirty years ago, at age four years old, was diagnosed with Global Developmental Delay. In addition, at age fourteen, our second daughter commenced a ten year journey with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Grant had a major career change when he went from being a Corporate Lawyer and returned to study in order to become a Pastor. Three years ago he retired after thirty years of parish ministry. I valued participating in a number of ministries during this period. Two that stand out are working with the housing commission community in West Heidelberg and then with a multi-cultural community. In addition, aside from my important role as a wife and mother, my own career has spanned working in administration; pastoral care in hospitals, counselling and wellbeing support in two primary schools.

As wellbeing support, my role is to help with providing support in the areas of social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing of students, families and staff. I work at The Patch Primary School on Tuesdays and Fridays of the school week.

Staff, students and their families are most welcome to drop in to say "Hi" to me in 'The Nest' on either of my days at school. In addition, with parental consent, I am very happy to see anyone who is referred to me either via a staff member, a family member, or a student who may self-refer.

I look forward to meeting many more of the school community during the remainder of this year.

Anne Lawry

Wellbeing Support

VISITORS

A reminder also to everyone that we have a policy which requires all visitors to report to the office first when entering the school. Should you need to visit the classroom, see your child at recess or are a helper at school, please report to the office first, to sign the visitor's register and pick up your visitor's tag. This ensures that in an emergency we are able to account for all people at school.

If you are having someone collecting your children that is not on your emergency contact list or does not normally pick up your child, can you please send a note to your teacher. This is especially important for the junior children as we release the children from their class for the day.

SUPERVISION

The playground is supervised from 8.45am and children should not be at school before this time unless prearranged by a teacher due to a school event. Each day teachers will be in their classroom at 8.55 am parents should note that lessons will begin at 9am sharp. For more complex issues an alternative meeting time, at a mutually agreeable time, can be arranged after school.

If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, it is necessary on occasions to contact parents and we are often frustrated by out of date information that delays this process. Please make sure you notify the office, in writing, of any changes to your or your Emergency Contact details as well as mobile phone numbers for our SMS system.

Obviously in extreme cases we may also deem it necessary to call an Ambulance before consulting parents and you need to be aware of this. Please also keep the Office informed of any change in medical issues faced by your children as this helps us to make the best choices for their welfare.

Your up to date contact information is especially important for our SMS system in case we need to contact you in case of an emergency, e.g. bushfire.



The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Ambulance cover could be one consideration as the school will not hesitate to call an ambulance if we are concerned for a child's wellbeing.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development states that reasonable, low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. For those parents who seek personal cover, details of an insurer who offers individual accident insurance for \$29 for the year is:

EBM INSURANCE BROKERS and the link is <u>https://www.ebminsurance.com.au/personal-cover/student-cover.php</u>

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER'S RISK

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools. Principals are requested to remind students and parents/guardians of this at the beginning of each academic year and to discourage parents/students from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. Please, try and avoid bringing these items as it can be most upsetting for all concerned when items do go missing.

As per our mobile phone policy, students are to leave mobile phones either with their class teachers or at the office, prior to classes commencing and collect them at the end of the day







...STUDENT NEWS...

SRC

Hello, I'm Alexander and I will be telling you what I'm looking forward to in my Senior SRC career this year. Firstly, I want to make my personal dream come true. Since grade 2, I have had a dream to promote anti-climate change policies, but I did not know how to do that. Then in grade 3 I was informed that I could enter a council called SRC... ever since then I have been trying to enter into SRC and make a change.

Secondly, when I started grade 5, I realised that I wanted to do more in SRC. I added a policy that I promised I would try my hardest to promote students' ideas.

Those two things are my hope for my SRC career (Alexander, grade 5).

OUR FOREST CLASSROOM

Our Forest Classroom program began last week with our year 5 students and their kinder buddies. Here's what two of our students wrote about it:

Alex, grade 5: *"Our first forest classroom session was mostly about getting to know our kinder buddies. We had lots of fun playing with the rainbow parachute and walking through the wetlands. There were a lot of interesting thing to find with our buddies.*

Some things we learnt were what our buddies liked and enjoyed, what certain plants were called and how to care for our buddies. The thing I loved the most about Forest Classroom was meeting our kinder buddies and playing games with them. My buddy Flynn's favourite dinosaur is Triceratops and I'll have to ask him why" (Alex, grade 5).

Dunchadh grade 5: "For our first session we got to see our kinder buddy for the first time. We played with a rainbow parachute and it was very fun. I learnt that the fern gully is full of old toilets that rusted into the ground because long ago toilets were just pots (this refers to the dumping of old dunny cans into the creek many years ago when septic toilets were introduced into the local area. These old cans have stabilised our banks but can be seen emerging out of the earth at different spots. The soil has been tested and no heavy metals are present, nor are there any health risk associated with the area).



Pyjama Day!

Hello, we are the Senior SRC Free Dress Committee and on **Monday, the 22nd of March,** we are having a **PJ Day** so you can wear your oodies or robes or slippers or pj's to school for the day. If you don't want to wear your pj's, you can wear some appropriate free dress clothes! It's happening at The Patch PS and there is **no cost** so wear your PJ's for **PJ Monday, March 22nd! (by Harper, Ella and River, Senior \$RC).**

Gang Green

My name is Alexander and I will be telling you about Gang Green.

What is Gang Green? What do we do?

Gang Green is a school club that is made of students. We garden, harvest and plant. Effectively, we visually improve the gardens of the patch.

Who is in it?

Gang Green is made up of 5/6 students who nominate themselves.

Who leads Gang Green?

There are two people who lead Gang Green. They are: Ken our gardener and Nina our STEM teacher. We meet on Tuesdays from 2.30 – 3.20pm.

What I love most?

I really enjoy going around the food garden and identifying the crops (Alexander, grade 5).

Kinder Monitors

The Kinder Monitor role is for helping the Kinder teachers and entertaining and having fun with the kiddos! We go every fortnight on a Wednesday. There are two groups from year 5/6: Group 1 includes Isla, Selina, Lola, Lulu and Maya. Group 2 includes Abi, Jill, Stella, Elsie and Marlo. We help by playing with the children and helping the kinder teachers with taking care of them. We entertain the kids so the teachers can finish thing off and clean or prepare activities (Elsie and Abi, grade 5).

PatchFest21

Last week we held **our first PatchFest 2021** planning meeting amid lots of laughter and great ideas. Our planning team has welcomed a number of new members with a range of skills and lots of enthusiasm so we are very excited to begin making some arrangements for this very important fundraising event.

Input from every aspect of our school is essential for the success of PatchFest and we shall be asking for help to make produce or craft for our PatchMade stall, provide help on our first aid stand, volunteer for a couple of hours on the day, offer items for a raffle, cook or serve on one of our many food stalls, direct cars in the parking area, deliver flyers or help set up. The options are endless but if everyone commits in some way, it is sure to be a wonderful community event.

Our team members so far include Sam and Tex Moon, Danni DeValence, Becks Wapshott, Ange Ellis, Simon Brown, Olivia Cozzolino, Carly Russo, Jeff Barry, Nicole Murphy, Emily Boldiston, Mikhaela Bourke and myself. Our next meeting will refine our planning teams so we can invite members of the community to join one if they wish to help.

Our next meeting will be held in the school staff room following the school council meeting on Tuesday 30th March at 7pm.

Please keep an eye out for some top class social media posts coming your way and start thinking about what you can do to contribute to this major event.

Our new Garden Team

We are proud to announce our new garden team who shall be helping to organise working bees and garden activities over the coming year. Our first meeting will be held next week on Wednesday, March 17 at 7pm in the staff room. Please come along if you would like to lend a hand and we shall work out the best time for meetings and catch ups. For those who cannot make an evening meeting, we shall explore the option of an after school catch up.

Our team so far consists of Ken Colley (our gardener), James Harris, Jude Kavanagh, Clayton Hugo, Eloise Hayler, Sarah Jones, Jen Barber and myself.

Our first task shall be to organise our upcoming working bee for Saturday, the 1st of May from 9 – 1pm. We have lots to do around the gardens to provide enriching learning spaces for our students, safe and inspiring areas to play and relax, as well as creative projects to enhance our grounds. Please consider joining this important and sure to be dynamic team!

Warm regards,

Michelle



Junior SRC

Junior SRC by Kitty and Jilly (grade 5/6)

Junior SRC (for students from prep to year 2) is an idea brought by Elsie, Kitty, Abi and Jilly to the SRC meeting. We have Junior SRC because we believe all students at The Patch Primary School should have a voice no matter what age, gender or race.

Junior SRC is a place for students to share comments, thoughts and ideas for the school and to blossom into leaders and is led by four students from year 5/6 – Kitty, Abi, Elsie and Jilly.

This week on Thursday afternoon, we held our first Junior SRC meeting but the time and date is just temporary (shall be confirmed shortly). The meeting was held in a secret location (the STEM room) and Alice, Billie, Hudson R and Atticus are our Junior SRC representatives.

We hope Jr SRC makes a difference in our school (written by Kitty and Jilly).





Facebook page or email monbulknetballclub3793@gmail.com



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A school holiday program for children in Prep to Grade 6

Centre-based care: \$62 per day Excursion days: \$71 per day Opening hours 8am to 6pm Belmont Park - Olympus Drive, Croydon South *nlease note: There will not be a prog am at Springfield Pavilion for these school holidays

For further information please contact our Vacation Care team on 9294 5739. Maroondah City Council 🕜 CityofMaroondah 👩 maroondahcityoouncil 🕞 Maroondah City Council Important information

Bookings Vacation Care bookings must be paid for prior to the commencement of Vacation Care. This is done via iPay. If the requested dates on the Vacation Care booking form (on Council's website) are available, these will be the dates that families will be booked in and charged for.

Late pick up fee

The Vacation Care program finishes each day at 6pm. If a child is not picked up by this time a late fee will be charged, according to the following scale - \$10 for every 10 minutes or part thereof per family

Cancellations

No refunds or credits given for days that families have booked and no longer require. Payment is required for all booked days whether children attend the program or not.

Children's belongings Strictly no money or children's toys (including smart watches, iPads, phones, DS consoles, cameras) are to be brought to the program.

Please clearly label all your child's clothing and belongings.

Priority of access The Australan Government regards children at risk of abuse or neglect as a priority group for access to quality childcare. Families in crisis should also have support and assistance from child care services to the maximum extent possible. The Australian Government resources child care with a major purpose of meeting the child care needs of families with recognised work or work related commitments. Where demand for care exceeds supply, it is important for services to allocate available places to those families with the greatest need for childcare support. Priority of access

Clothing > Children

- Children must be dressed in: > SunSmart clothing, including covered shoulders. > Appropriate shoes for playing. No thongs or flip flops.
- Please ensure children are dressed in clothing appropriate for the weather. On wetter days please bring a waterproof coat, beanie, umbrella and gum boots
- Label clothing and personal belongings with your child's name so that it can be easily identified.

Food and drinks

- Parents are required to provide nutritious lunches and snacks, such as sandwiches, fruit, cheese sticks, and water. Please sand plenty of food for your child to eat.
- Please send a refillable drink bottle with water every day. Please no cans/bottles of soft drink.

- Plase no taitsouties or soft units. Please note that we cannot heat or cook children's snacks or lunches. We strongly encourage families to re-think your child's lunch box and send nude food each day to the program.

Enrolments Enrolments for the Vacation Care program must be completed online at: www.marcondah.vic.gov.au/Community-support-services/Children-and-families/School-holiday-programs-primary-school

Excursions Children must arrive at the program at least 30 minutes before the stated departure time – this will help us to avoid being late for booked activities. The bus will not wait for those who are late.

If your child will not be attending on an excursion day, please contact the Educators at the program before 8.30am to prevent delays in departure.

Please dress appropriately as excursions will run during all weather conditions. Children are not to bring money on excursions.

When travelling by bus we use Ventura bus lines. All buses are fitted with seat belts.

Educator/child ratio is: 1 educator to every 8 children and for a swimming excursion 1 educator to every 5 children.

Please make sure your child brings a refillable water bottle and plenty of food to eat with no wrappers.

- If a child is to receive medication during the day, parents must complete the Medication Instruction Sheet, and sign the medication in and out with an educator each day.
- Medication must be in the original containers with the original labels and the child's name and specific dosage must be clearly visible on the containers. This also 5 applies to any over the counter medication.

Additional needs children All children are welcome to participate in our Vacation Care Program. If your child has any additional needs, please contact Council's Vacation Care Coordinator on 9249 5799 at least six weeks before the program is due to start to discuss the best ways to support your child.

Additional days of care During the holidays you must contact Council's Vacation Care team on 9294 5739 if you wish to book your child in for additional days of care.

Child Care Subsidy Child Care Subsidy is available to families who have linked their myGov account. If you are unable to link our Vacation Care program to your account, please contact Centrelink or 13 61 50.

MONBULK NETBALL CLUB



WHEN Starts April 28th Terms 2 & 3 4pm – 5pm

WHERE Monbulk Netball Courts Meares Boat, Monbulk

NetSetGO is Netball Australia's only junior entry netball program. It has been developed to provide all children from 5 to 10 years of age with the best possible learning and playing experience to develop a positive introduction to netball, ensuring enjoyment and continued participation.

WHAT

NetSetGO is a junior entry netball program incorporating skill activities, minor games, music and dance in a fun and safe environment

WHO

5-10 year old boys and girls

COST

\$68 Includes a welcome pack with a netball and t-shirt

HOW

Gome and see us at the Moores Rd courts on Wednesdays from 4-5pm

MORE INFO

0 0

Email us at monbulknetballclub 3793@gmail.com



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Our Commitment

Quality Teaching and Learning, Positive Relationships, Personalised Learning

At Emerald Secondary College we are committed to ensure that all our students experience a quality education that enables them to achieve their personal best and access to excellence. Our school learning community provides a caring, inclusive and stimulating environment in which students can develop skills and personal qualities necessary to participate confidently and positively in a changing global world.

2021 SEAL Applications due

Friday April 23rd



Emerald Secondary College

425 Belgrave—Gembrook Road, EMERALD For school tours, please call 5968 5388 www.emeraldsc.vic.edu.au

Join Scouts Today

1st Kallista Scout Group

Scouting actively engages and supports young people aged 5-25 in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Joey Scouts (5-8 years) Mondays 5:30-6:30pm

Cub Scouts (8-11 years) Tuesdays 7:00-8:30pm

Scouts (11-14 years) Wednesdays 7:00-9:00pm

kallistascout@gmail.com



scoutsvictoria.com.au

Community Notices

Music Tuition with Chris Walker

Lessons in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after. Phone 0407 049 012 or email <u>chrisw7@ymail.com</u>

Violin & Viola Lessons

Private violin/viola lesson available for all grades from prep. Please contact Hiro (0423 765 312 or hiro1656@hotmail.com)

Private Ukulele Lessons

The Patch School students now have the opportunity to take private ukulele lessons. The Patch School parent, Jess Dunn, has had 6 years' experience teaching ukulele to kids and adults and loves teaching at The Patch. The cost is \$18 for a 20-minute individual lesson or \$12 for a 20 minute group lesson (subject to suitable pairing). For more information, please call or email. 0408 102 542 jessdunn.arts@gmail.com

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