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Pascoe Vale Primary School is a child safe school

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Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November

Term 4 week 8

# Newsletter

## Principal's Column

### School Christmas Concert



We are excitedly practising and preparing for the school concert. Lots of singing and dancing is echoing through the corridors of the school. We are planning to have the concert on the newly redeveloped oval area. We would like to ask people to ensure if they are bringing food and drinks that it does not **end up on the new surface**. The

students need to have eaten before they arrive and have their own water bottle as they will be sitting in their class groupings and not able to leave these areas. Where possible, we encourage people to use picnic rugs and low beach chairs with taller chairs being restricted to the rear of the seating area. I would also like to request that people are respectful of our young performers and do not walk around during performances. The playground will be out of bounds and it is not appropriate for older siblings to be playing soccer etc while the concert is on. The students are really looking forward to sharing their performance with you all. It is a lovely community evening and exciting night for them.

### Transition Sessions

On Wednesday, we had the first transition session. It was pleasing to see all the children moving into their 2019 areas, showing excitement and some nervousness. They were able to get a taste and feel for their new grade level. We will have two more sessions culminating in a morning session on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December, when they will be with their classmates and in their 2019 classroom.

### Staffing

We have finalised our staffing and school structure for 2019. We have spent the last four weeks placing children into their new classes for 2019. We have considered and consulted taking into account many factors in this process. This is a complex task, considering a balance of the social, emotional and academic needs of our students. At this stage, we have to draw the line and say we believe this is the best grouping of students. In life, we do not always get our first choice and it is important for children to develop resilience and that as a family you support this. We also have to have further resilience for contingencies such as this year when several teachers gained promotions at other schools. We will do all we can to ensure the smoothest possible start to the year. I tell you this so that you can be understanding of the detailed process we go through in order to develop the positive learning environment for your child.

<b>2019 School grade organisation</b>	
Foundation	4 classes
Grade 1	5 classes
Grade 2	5 classes
Grade 3/4	7 classes
Grade 5/6	5 classes

### **School Council Report**

It was the final meeting of the School Council for 2019. The Council were presented the indicative budget and program budget plans for next year. This has the culmination of much planning from teachers and administration. All the budgets align with School Strategic Plan 2017-2020 and the 2019 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). The school council also looked at the 2019 AIP draft, which outlines details of the directions and goals of the school for the coming year.

2019 Key Improvement Strategies:

- Develop the capability of teachers' assessment practices to ensure that the progress of each student is closely monitored, identify students working above and below expected standards and planning meets each student's learning needs and ensures maximum learning growth.
- Embed agreed high impact teaching strategies that underpin effective teaching and learning, including innovative, engaging practices, which have an emphasis on student agency (demonstrating initiative, acting with purpose, independence and autonomy).
- To implement and further extend the home school connections with a focus on student learning.

I would like to sincerely thank all the School Councillors for their time, contribution and great support they have provided the school throughout 2018.

### **Kindness/Gold Coin Donation**



As we enter the festive season, where amongst the community and our families, we give and receive presents, eat celebratory meals with family and friends, it is important to think of other who are less fortunate; to reflect and be grateful for all

we have and consider how we can be kind to others. On Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, the Junior School Council are collecting a gold coin donation from the students for the 'Christmas at The Valley' initiative. Moonee Valley Racing Club are asking local schools to donate for the purchase of gifts and books which will be distributed to [The Smith Family Toy and Book Appeal](#) along with [Helping Hands Mission](#). On Tuesday, the students can wear their favourite hat and bring a gold coin. We will also collect the next evening at the concert to add to our donation.



## Lost Property

There is an ever-increasing mountain of lost property outside the first aid room. It will be sorted as much as we can and returned to owners where there is a name tag. I plan to put it out at assembly on FRIDAY for the rightful owners to collect. All items left will be disposed of or used as second hand clothing. We don't want to be wasteful, so please encourage your child to find their piece of clothing



## Some pictures from the oval redevelopment....nearly there!



## Calendar



### December

5 <sup>th</sup>	Whole school second transition session 2.30pm-3.30pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	Assembly 3pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Concert
14 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Music students' concert @ 4pm in the Library
18 <sup>th</sup>	Grade 6 Graduation
19 <sup>th</sup>	Whole school First Aid for students Training with St John
20 <sup>th</sup>	Final Transition session - meeting the 2019 teacher
21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Last day of School for 2019. 1.30pm dismissal</b>



# Christmas Concert raffle

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018



As part of the Christmas Concert the PFA are running a raffle. We are asking families to help by making a donation of goods to make up hampers (if they wish to). Donations could include anything Christmassy, children's toys, books or DVDs, non-perishable foods, and pamper items. Each grade grouping has been given a basket, which has been placed in the hall outside Mrs Naughton's office.

Or you could do like Julie Hartnett – she's going to make an awesome Gingerbread House to be raffled off. We can't wait to see what it looks like! Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated!

Raffle tickets (15 tickets per family) will be sent home this week and cost **\$2 for 3 tickets**. Please return the raffle stubs and money to the office by **Monday 10 December** to ensure they make the draw. Extra tickets can be bought at the office but no tickets will be sold on the night.



The PFA Committee would like to thank you all for your wonderful support throughout 2018!

# Foundation D



In maths we have been learning about sharing equally (division). The students have been using many concrete materials such as counters, matchsticks, blocks, objects they have collected outside, and themselves to learn about the concept of sharing equally between a given number.



They have been making, explaining and writing sentences to show their understanding.

In one activity (see above), students showed their understanding through the worded story problem: “There were three vases with an equal amount of flowers in each vase. What could the vases have looked like.”



Some examples were –

15 flowers shared between 3 vases is 5 flowers in each vase.”

12 flowers shared between 3 vases is 4 flowers in each.”



We also went outside and shared objects equally between a given number of hula hoops

In P.E., the class have been enjoying their gymnastics unit. Lots of tumbling, balancing and strength activities to keep them all fit and healthy!



We are also practising our assembly item song, which we are looking forward to sharing with the whole community on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December. It is a song about living things and was inspired by our fantastic excursion to Animal World at Diggers Rest earlier in the year.

In writing, we are busily planning and writing narratives. It has been great fun. The students are learning about the structure of narratives (characters, setting, problem and solution) and learning to add detail and make their stories more interesting by using sizzling sentence starters.

## Community News

*Items are promoted subject to availability of space and are offered for community service. Due to the amount of advertising, flyers are posted on the notice board outside the main building. Please check on the noticeboard if you have an interest.*

