

# COCKATOO PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## ***Cockatoo***

*A Great Place To Be!*

**NO. 2**

**Friday February 14<sup>th</sup> 2020**

### ***Dates to Remember***

#### **February**

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup>**      ***EDEC Swimming Carnival grades 3-6***  
***Ramo Information Night***
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>**      ***Parent Information Exchange 2pm – 8pm***  
***No school for ALL Foundation Students***
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>**      ***No school for ALL Foundation Students***

#### **March**

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup>**      ***Labour Day \* NO SCHOOL TODAY \****
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>**      ***House Athletics Day – Whole School***
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup>**      ***School Dental Van visits begin***
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**      ***Whole School PHOTO Day 9am Sharp***
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup>**      ***Last Day Term 1 Dismissal 2:30pm***

#### **April**

- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**      ***Term 2 Begins 9am***
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup>**      ***EDEC Athletics Carnival***

# PRINCIPALS REPORT

The Great Start Continues .....

My visits to the classrooms have left me very impressed and super proud at the quality of the teaching and learning and the very calm learning environments within every classroom. The students are on task and engaged with their learning. Great start to 2020 everybody!

## **School Leaders**

It is with great pleasure that I announce the following students who will be the leaders within our school community during 2020.

I am looking forward to working with all of our school leaders who should feel nothing but pride in their achievement because they have gained their leadership roles solely based on merit.

*School Captains:* Jolie Appleyard, Patrick Bennetts, Jenny Revell and Makenzie Fox-Strucelj  
The school captains are nominated and elected by staff.

For 2020 the following students were nominated by their peers and ratified by staff to assume the role of leaders in each house:

**Bailey House** Captains : Jack Anderson, Kayden Rech-Ellery, Dylan Martini and Ty Lutz

**Fairbridge House** Captains : Zoe Lyall, Darcy Wyley, Sienna Connelly and Ava Gelastopoulos

**Treloar House** Captains : Eva South, Charlotte Nicholls, Harry Keily, Rielle Menere

**McBride House** Captains : Indi Young, Mollie Harmer, Sean Fitzpatrick and Brody Taylor

As you can see from the list, the four captains have not been divided into “captain and vice”. This was suggested by students who viewed the roles as very similar and not discrete.

Leadership badges have been ordered and families will be notified on their arrival and the date of the assembly at which they will be presented.

## **Individual Learning Plans**

Teachers are currently preparing Individual Learning Plans for all students who are operating outside the expected level. Parents will be contacted if your child is below or above the expected level for literacy and/or numeracy.

## **House Sports**

The House Sports will be held on Wednesday March 11<sup>th</sup> 2020 at Mountain Road Reserve. Please keep that day free as we would love your help!

## **Parent Teacher Information Exchange**

**Wednesday 19th February 2020** has been designated as the **Parent/Teacher Information Exchange**. The exchange will operate from 2PM until 8PM. Bookings for this are through the uEducateUs communication platform only. Log on and select your preferred time!

These nights provide a great opportunity for parents to get to know their child's teacher, to find out how their child has settled into the year and to make the teacher aware of anything that may assist in catering for the educational needs of their child.

*Please note: all children attend school as usual for the entire school day.*

### **Free Sanitary Items**

The Victorian Government is providing free sanitary items in every government school. Yesterday a dispenser was installed in the senior female toilets to ensure accessibility for all students. The dispenser will regularly be filled by departmental contractors at no cost to the school.

### **Homework Policy**

Please find detailed below our homework policy that has been developed according to departmental guidelines and ratified by School Council. These guidelines outline the expectations at each grade level.



#### **Purpose**

Homework benefits students by complementing classroom learning, fostering good life-long learning and study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

#### **Aims**

- To help students by complementing and reinforcing basic skills.
- To foster lifelong learning and good study habits. To provide an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.
- To assist students to develop self-regulation processes such as goal setting, self-efficiency, self-reflection and time management classroom learning.
- To support partnerships with parents by connecting families with the learning of their children.

#### **Implementation**

##### **Prep – 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.

- Can foster a sense of self-discipline and responsibility and prepare students for upper grades
- Enables the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering of extra information or materials.
- Will mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and 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.

##### **Years 5 – 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.

- Should include daily independent reading.

- Should be coordinated across learning areas in secondary schools to avoid unreasonable workloads for students.
- May extend class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.
- Assigned homework tasks will include daily independent reading and may include extension assignments, class work, essays and research.

#### Value of Homework:

The current evidence and research shows that the quality of homework assigned is likely to be more important than the quantity. Research has established that homework has a positive effect on learning, particularly at the middle and secondary school levels (Xu, 2010; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 2005). Although homework's effectiveness has been challenged by educators, parents, and students (Kohn, 2006), it continues to be an important educational supplement used by most teachers to enhance the learning experience of their students (Patall, Cooper, & Wynn, 2010). Overall, the effectiveness of homework is enhanced by providing students with choices among homework tasks, which will result in higher motivational and performance outcomes, students' autonomy, and intrinsic motivation (Patall et al., 2010).

#### Homework helps students by:

- Complementing and reinforcing classroom learning
- Fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- Providing an opportunity for students to become responsible for their own learning
- Developing self-regulation processes such as goal-setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection and time management
- Supporting partnerships with parents by connecting families with the learning of their children

#### Homework should be:

- Appropriate to the student's skill level and age.
- Interesting, challenging and where possible open ended.
- Balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities
- Purposeful, meaningful and relevant to the curriculum
- Assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided.
- Clear in relation to timeline for completion, instructions on what to do.

**Practice Examples** - providing students with the opportunities to apply new knowledge, or to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills such as:

- Reading for pleasure
- Practising spelling words.
- Practising physical education skills
- Writing essays and other creative tasks.
- Practising and playing musical instruments
- Completing consolidation exercises for Mathematics.
- Practising words/phrases learnt in a Language Other Than English

**Extension Assignments** - encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively such as:

- Writing a book review
- Researching local news
- Finding material on the internet
- Making or designing an art work
- Monitoring advertising in a newspaper
- Completing Science investigation exercises.
- Uncompleted class work may be allocated as a home task, where the student's behaviour has not allowed satisfactory completion during class time.

- Failure by students to complete homework on a regular basis will be followed up with the parents.
- Parents will be informed of each grade's curriculum emphases through the **weekly** Parent Information Bulletin (PIB).

The homework policy will be distributed to parents at the commencement of each school year. Upper primary students will use a homework diary to provide regular communication between parents and the school

**Principal:** Darrelyn Boucher

**Review cycle** This policy was last updated in July 2018 and is scheduled for review in July 2021.





Every Tuesday afternoon 3/4s are working with a 1/2 class within a Peer Support program. It encourages peer connections throughout the school and assists students in developing practical skills to enhance social and emotional well-being

Key outcomes of the program

- Building positive relationships
- Developing skills such as assertiveness, communication, empathy, decision making, conflict resolution and critical thinking.
- Enhancing mental health
- Taking personal responsibility
- Embracing lifelong learning
- Encouraging participation
- Developing leadership skills



This week, our first Peer Support session was used to get to know each other and discuss what we will be investigating. We are very excited to share, with you that we will be making watercolour pictures using salt.

Stay tuned weekly for updates.

Thank you to Mrs Boucher for supporting us to run this program!





# *Birthdays of the Month*

# February

We would like to wish the following students a very Happy Birthday.

**Levi Askew**

**Ryan Kelly**

**Declan Hamilton**

**Ollie Comrie**

**Darcy Langhorne**

**Ivy Martini**

**Brianna Wallis**

**Ty Lutz**

**Mia Leitch**

**Zac Glasson**

**Ricky Clogg**

**Jayda Blacha**

**Owen Harris**

**Samantha Fowler**

**Reece Hodges**

**Aodhan James-Bige**

**Noah Jozsa**

**Franklin Stack**

**Jasper Keen – Grunberg**

**Ciara Bestenbreur**

**Tori McKay**

**Mia McHendrie**

**Sophie Keily**



# BOOK CLUB

**Cut off date for orders will be Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Issue 1 - 2020, all book club orders and payments will need to be done online via the **Book Club LOOP** for parents - **please do not send book club orders or money to school.** The books you have ordered will be distributed to school, and then I will distribute books to the students.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU ENTER AN ORDER AFTER THE CLOSE OFF DATE YOU WILL INCUR A CHARGE OF \$4.99, FOR POSTAGE, YOUR ORDER WILL BE POSTED TO YOUR HOME ADDRESS. THIS IS A SCHOLASTIC FEE NOT THE SCHOOL'S FEE.**

Thank you everyone for your continuing support of Book Club .....

Amanda Flint - Book Club Co-ordinator

For a quick how-to-order video, log -in to - [www.scholastic.com.au/loop](http://www.scholastic.com.au/loop) - and click on HELP in the top menu.

The graphic is a promotional banner for the Scholastic Book Club LOOP. It features the Scholastic logo at the top, followed by the text 'Book Club LOOP for Parents' in large, bold letters. Below this, it explains that LOOP is a platform for parents to order and pay for books online. It provides the website URL [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) and includes buttons for downloading the app on Google Play and the App Store.

**SCHOLASTIC**

## Book Club LOOP

for Parents

**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:  
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## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

### HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

**THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE  
FOR CSEF  
DON'T FORGET TO COME TO  
THE OFFICE TO COLLECT  
YOUR FORM**



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ZONE**  
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