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NEWSLETTER 25th November 2021

Principal's Report

Like many things this year, camps for our students in years 4 and 6 were cancelled.

On Monday this week our year 4 students had the opportunity to regain a small part of their planned camp experience, as we were invited to Somers Camp for a day trip. This has allowed the students to participate in the many unique activities Somers Camp has to offer. Activities and catering was organised by camp staff for a full day of fun and adventure.

Students and staff had an early start, leaving school at 8am. The weather was lovely and the students had a great day of challenging themselves and working collaboratively when enjoying the flying fox, giant swing, team challenge, archery, beach games and exploration.

Somers Camp also offered to host "The Big Day" for our year 6 students the following day, Tuesday, November 23rd. Once again our students and staff began their day of adventure early, leaving school at 8am and returning at 5:15pm.

The weather continued to provide the optimum conditions for outdoor education activities. Many of the activities posed opportunities for our students to step outside their comfort zone and take on new experiences. These included the rock climbing wall and abseiling, the high ropes course, flying fox, challenge swing, bush cooking and surfing.

Both days I had the opportunity to call in and share some of the day with students and staff.

We are very grateful to Somers Camp and their staff for providing their services and offering this opportunity to our students.

As Principal, it makes me extremely proud of the positive feedback I received from all the camp staff about the manner in which our students conducted themselves when at the camp. The co-operation, enthusiasm, attentive listening and gratitude our students demonstrated throughout the day was truly appreciated by the camp staff. Well done to everyone involved in both days at Somers Camp.

Last Friday our students had a very enjoyable and successful day at Lightning Premiership. Many teams gained placings in their respective sports. The overall results were - Soccer girls 2nd, Soccer boys 1st, AFL 3rd, Tee-ball 3rd, Netball girls 4th and Netball mixed 5th, well done everyone!

Good luck to all our teams participating at the Hooptime basketball competition tomorrow.

Information and permission forms were distributed on Monday to our year 1 students informing families of the re-scheduling of the swimming program. The program will be conducted at Cardinia Life, Pakenham and begins on Monday, December 6th and concludes after 8 sessions on Wednesday, December 15th. Signed permission forms need to be returned to school as soon as possible.

Recently we were notified by the Department of Education of some significant changes to how COVID-19 and contacts of cases are managed in schools.

The updated process for any students identified as a close school contact when there is a confirmed case in a school is substantially different.

Please familiarize yourselves with the communication posted on Compass this afternoon with the newsletter. If parents have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the school office for clarification.

Plans and preparations are currently underway for our year 5 camp in 2022. Our year 5 students will be heading to Beechworth on Tuesday March 8th and returning on Friday March 11th. Notices will be distributed shortly to our year 4 students containing information regarding this camp.

The students' visit to Beechworth relates to their history inquiry unit. This unit of study enables our students to explore events that have shaped our nation's culture, as well as examining the impact of immigration on our country's growth and development. Students will also explore the economic impact of the gold rush on Australia's early economy, investigate early methods of communication and learn about the life and times of Ned Kelly.

Part of the preparation is to confirm student numbers attending the camp. To assist with our planning we are asking for a deposit of \$50 to be paid by Friday, December 11th. The remaining balance will be due in 2022.

It has been noted that recently some parents have been smoking in close proximity to our school gates. For everyone's safety and comfort, can I please ask parents to keep their distance from the school gates when smoking and any thorough fares leading to the school crossing. I thank you in anticipation for your cooperation.

A reminder to parents who would like to order the student book packs from our preferred supplier Maxim. Orders will need to be placed and paid for online by the closing date of Monday, December 13th. The packs will be available to collect from school on Thursday, January 27th.

We will be conducting a curriculum day on Friday, December 3rd. Staff will be participating in some Professional Learning including reflections and analyses of teaching and learning programs and preparations for 2022.

Students do not attend school on this day. Our OSHClub will be operating a full day's program to support our parents and families on this day. If you require this service you are encouraged to contact OSHClub on 0438 559 017 to book your child's place.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Friday 26th November: Hoop Time (selected Year 6 students)

Friday 3rd December: Curriculum Day (students do not attend on this day)

Monday 6th December: Library Books due back

Monday 6th December - Friday 10th December: Year 1 Swimming Program

Monday 13th December - Wednesday 15th December: Year 1 Swimming Program

Friday 17th December: Last Day of Term 4 - early dismissal 1:30pm

ICY POLE FRIDAY

We will be selling lemonade icy poles at lunch time on Fridays during term 4.

lcy poles are \$1.20 each and can be purchased from the Canteen.

PLPS Bucket Hats



We currently have our old style bucket hats available for sale from the office at the discounted price of \$10.00

These hats are no longer available at PSW.

Hats are part of our school uniform in Term 4.

It is strongly recommended that all students have their hats on when they play out in the yard at recess and lunch time.

Please remember to label your hats too! It is strongly recommended that all students have their hats on when they play out in the

Year 6 Big Day Out at Somers Camp

On Tuesday the 23rd of November the Year 6 students participated in a Big Day Out at Somers Camp. There were four activities each group got to do, and all of which were fun and adventurous. Some were surfing, the giant swing, flying fox and high ropes. Most of the activities were either challenging or frightening, however most students challenged themselves and conquered their fears. Everyone had a great time and will remember this day forever, as we shared many laughs with our friends.. We would like to acknowledge the year six teachers who helped us throughout the day and supported us when we needed it.



Year 6 Big Day Out at Somers Camp



"All Stars Martial Art classes are structured to offer each child a positive learning environment with activities and exercises specifically designed for primary school age students.

The focus of these classes is on social and emotional wellbeing, development of gross and fine motor skills, coordination, discipline, respect, team work, making friends and self-defence."





\$49

- Confidence
 Focus
 Resilience
- Commitment Respect FUN!!

Ph: 0467 049 139 E: pakenham@allstarsdefence.com.au

Location: Pakenham Hills Primary School Gym

15 Kennedy Road, Pakenham, Victoria

www.allstarsdefence.com.au

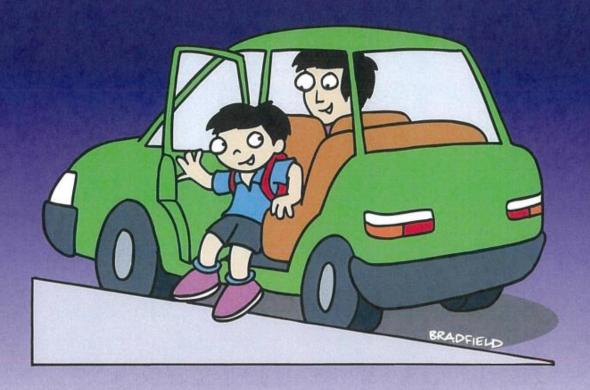
All school speed zone limits across the state are clearly signposted.

Look out for the speed signs near schools and slow down to improve safety for our children.

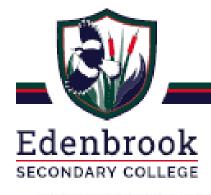




Parking at **YOUr** school



- Park the car in a legal parking area (in all weather conditions) and walk your child or meet them at the school gate.
- Avoid parking on or calling to children from the opposite side of the road.
 (Excited children often dash out onto the road and forget to look for traffic).
- You are not to park within 20 metres of the approach side and 10 metres of the departure side of a children crossing.
- Never park or drop-off children on the school crossing, no matter how brief it seems.
- · Never double park.
- Avoid letting children walk through carparks. Teach them the dangers of reversing vehicles, cars on the move, etc.
- Insist your children get in and out of the car using the safety doors (the kerbside doors). This will keep them out of the flow of traffic.



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SCHOOL TOURS ARE BACK!!

Tours can again be booked for enrolments in 2022 and beyond.

Meet the Principal, see our students in action, tour our fantastic new buildings and see how Stage 2 of our school is progressing.

Tours will run on Tuesday mornings at 9:15am.

Bookings are essential at https://compasstix.com/e/a1aev03ebo

Please note that all visitors to school grounds must comply with vaccination requirements, density limits, face mask requirements, QR code check-ins, practice respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.

