

NEWSLETTER

5th October 2023

Principal's Report

Welcome back to all members of our school community after what I hope has been a relaxing and enjoyable break. On behalf of our students and staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our four new students who have enrolled at PLPS and are continuing their education at our school.

Term four at PLPS is looking to be an exciting and busy term, with many activities planned as we seek to continue our focus on teaching and learning, and ensuring a successful conclusion to our year.

For our year 6 students, it will be their final term of primary school learning before they embark on the next phase of their educational journey at their respective secondary schools. To commence their final term, many of our year 6 students set their alarms for an early start when they arrived at school on Monday at 6:30am to prepare for their departure to Canberra for their camp this week. The students and staff are currently enjoying a jammed packed week of interesting and fun experiences. I have very much enjoyed spending some time with the campers this week. It was great to see the manner in which our students conducted themselves when visiting the attractions and their questions and interactions with the educators and guides at the attractions. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all staff members for the time and commitment they contributed to enable the camp to take place. We look forward to welcoming them home tomorrow afternoon.

On Tuesday our Year 3 students participated in their 'Hands On Science' IncurSION. Students explored the relationships between the Earth, Moon and Sun, including relative sizes and their orbits. Through a variety of hands-on activities, students had the opportunity to gain an understanding of gravity, day and night and Earth's seasons. Students thoroughly enjoyed the day. A highlight for many students was testing their bottle rockets outside.

Following the success at the Pakenham District Day, our girls will represent the school in the year 3/4 All-Star Girls State Hoop Time Basketball Competition on Friday October 13th at the Dandenong Basketball Stadium in Dandenong. Families are invited to come along and support our teams at this event.

With the beginning of term 4, it is timely to reflect on the crucial importance of school attendance and punctuality. Our teachers and other support staff will continue to work with all families and our students to maximise their learning, growth and development for the remainder of the 2023 school year.

One of the major influences on whether your child is likely to achieve their potential at school and then later in life, is their attendance patterns at school. Research indicates strongly that those students who are frequently absent or late to school are less likely to achieve the maximum potential with their learning. They are also at risk of becoming disconnected from their peers and this has the potential to impact upon their social development within our school community.

Students who arrive late on a regular basis are missing out on 'Morning Circle' time that often helps to make connections with their peers and teachers. Students are also missing out on important conversations about the day's learning program and instruction. Students who are frequently absent do not have the same opportunities to develop important teacher/student relationships which are a key feature of our student support. Also, students who are regularly late or absent may become socially disadvantaged as their friends and peers continue to develop friendship groups with others in their absence. Your child's desire to be punctual and attend school will be influenced by many factors. Our school will continue to support all of our students and their families. If you are experiencing difficulties with your child around attending school, please contact the school so we can support you and continue to assist your child with their learning and development.

You are the most important person in your child's life and you can assist your child to be an excellent school attendee by:

- helping your child to be organised with their time and being prepared for school
- setting up routines around school mornings
- aim to have your child at school every day, unless they are unwell
- plan holidays during end of term breaks
- instill the "value" of education by speaking about the importance of regular attendance
- contact our school if you require support or assistance.

Remember **"Every Day Counts"**

The beginning of term 4 does signify the need for all our students to be wearing their sunhats. The wearing of sunhats is an excellent habit to develop and one that we strongly encourage at school. Although our current weather is wet rather than sunny, I would ask all parents to assist us in developing this important life skill. If parents require a school sunhat for their child, they may be purchased from the PSW store in Officer or at the school office.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Monday 9th October - Wednesday 11th October : Year 4 Woorabinda Camp

Friday 13th October: Year 3/4 All Star Girls State Hooptime (selected students)

Friday 20th October: Cardinia Division Tennis Finals (selected students)

Wednesday 25th October: Year 1 Wilson Botanic Park Excursion

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Wednesday 18th October - 9am

Monday 30th October - 9am

Thursday 18th November - 9am

Thursday 30th November - 9am

Friday 15th December - 9am

YEAR ONE

Recently, our Year One students investigated the features of minibeasts as part of their Science and Inquiry studies. The world of Minibeasts and the important role these creatures play in our lives was explored. Students were able to get up close and personal with a variety of these creatures. Lots of fun was had by all!



MINIBEAST INCURSION

Our Year Ones enjoyed meeting some minibeasts during their recent Science Unit.





Year 2 Australian Animals

During Term 3, the Year Two students researched Australian Animals as part of our Reading, Writing and Inquiry Units of work. We wrote information reports and published them in different ways to present to other students, teachers and the school community during our Australian animals Expo.



To consolidate our learning about Australian animals, we went on an adventure to Gumbuya World to see some of the animals we had researched during the term. We got to hold a snake and touch a Green Tree Frog, meet a Barn owl named Rayya, and saw some amazing birds at the Bird Show! It was an amazing day!



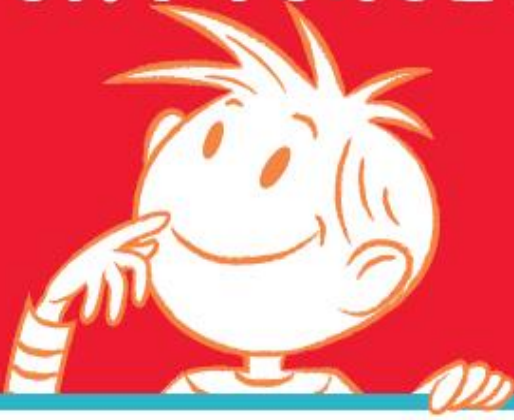


Cardinia Division Athletics Carnival 2023

On Wednesday the 13th of September, 25 of our students from years 4-6 represented the school in the Cardinia Division Athletics Day. The sun was shining, and we couldn't have asked for better weather. All students should be proud of the way they competed and the effort they displayed in their various events. In the end, 11 of our students have qualified for the Regional Athletics event on Wednesday the 18th of October. Information regarding this event will be distributed over the next couple of days. A big thank you to all the parents who came and supported the students throughout the day.



DON'T FORGET!



Hats

Hats are part of our school uniform in Term 4.

It is strongly recommended that all students have their hats on when they play at recess and lunch time out in the yard. Please remember to label your hats too!

 SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

orders are due:

13th October



ICY POLE FRIDAY

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

Icy poles are \$1.40 each and can be purchased from the Canteen.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Sharing of food

Sharing of food items is NOT permitted at PLPS, due to reasons associated with health, safety and family beliefs and choice. Food cannot be distributed to other students: this includes food items to celebrate birthdays.

Non-food items can be shared for birthdays, if so desired.

When food items are being used within the teaching and learning programs at school, communications will be posted on Compass to parents and carers outlining the food items being used. Parents will have the option to discuss implications for their child or opt out of these activities.



LATE ARRIVALS

Every child arriving after the 9am bell must come to the school office to collect a Late Pass to take to their teacher.

EARLY LEAVERS

Should parents wish to collect their child/children from school early, they must sign them out at the office. Please allow yourself extra time for collection as we only call students to the office once parents arrive.

Our lunchtime runs from 1:40-2:25pm and it can be extremely difficult for students to hear announcements whilst playing outside. If you need to collect your child during this time could you please arrange to collect them before or after lunch.



Community Centre
Term 4 Program
Out Now!

BOOKINGS OPEN ON THE
WEBSITE & AT THE CENTRE

Outlook
an inclusive society for all

If you need to drive to school, get your child into the habit of using the kerbside doors, away from traffic.

 vicroads

 State Government
Victoria



chips
changing little worlds in big ways

LIFE GETS BETTER

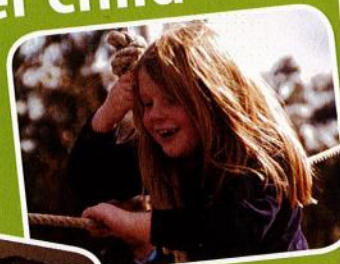
For children in Grades 4 to 6
who have gone through:

- Death in the family
- Divorce
- Major Grief

Adventure Day

October 28th

Where: Phillip Island
Adventure Resort
Cost: \$45 per child



For bookings phone: (03) 9702 5528
mobile: 043 50 CHIPS
email: enquiries@chips.org.au

Production of
Disney
THE LION KING


Music and Lyrics by
Elton John & Tim Rice

Additional Music and Lyrics by
Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin and Hans Zimmer

Book by Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi

Based on the Broadway production directed by Julie Taymor

Music Adapted & Arranged and Additional Music & Lyrics and
"Luau Hawaiian Treat" written by Will Van Dyke

"It's a Small World" written by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).

All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

**Thank you to everyone who came and cheered for our
Grade 5 and 6 students! They did a marvellous job.**

**DVDs & USBs, pictures and programs can still be ordered
from the school office.**

Contact the office on 5940 9532

A5 pictures, mains portraits and programs are \$1

The large Grade 5 & 6 group pictures are \$3

DVDs are \$25 & USBs are \$30

0401179938

ballsmartacademy@gmail.com

BOOK NOW

Term 4

JOIN US!

STARTS ON

8 OCTOBER '23



NEW PLAYER

+

KITS

250 AU\$

10 WEEK PROGRAMME



TRAINING PROGRAM FOR BOYS AND GIRLS



BE COACHED BY TWO
FORMER REAL MADRID ACADEMY PLAYERS

SUNDAYS

10:00

11:00 am



CURRENTLY TEACHING

2-4 YEARS OLD

5-12 YEARS OLD

OFFICER COMMUNITY HUB
2 PARKER STREET OFFICER, VIC



@ballsmartacademy