



Friends Learning Together Newsletter

Friday 31st January 2020

Principal's Report

Welcome to Term One 2020 everyone! And a very special Frankston Primary School welcome to all of our new students and families and our new Prep students and Prep families, we are excited to have you as a part of our wonderful school community.

We have had a beautiful smooth start to the 2020 year and Term One. I am so proud of our amazing staff who have worked so hard over the holidays and towards the start of this term in ensuring all of our students had warm, welcoming classrooms and learning environments to return to for the start of their new year. I am also so very proud of our Frankston Primary students who have all returned fresh and ready for a brand new school year – working hard to sort all of their new school supplies, welcoming old and new friends and building positive starts within their new classrooms and with new teachers. Our Grade Six students also thoroughly enjoyed supporting their new prep buddies (although some of them did recognise it was hard work!).

School Improvement Initiatives - The Exciting Year Ahead

At the end of one year and into the start of the next we reflect on our achievements and set goals for the year to come. In 2020 we will focus on the following:

- * Building student learning through a continued professional development focus building teacher knowledge, skills and strategies in the teaching of reading, writing and numeracy.
- * Purchase of new reading texts for students and for teachers to use as strong literacy teaching resources
- * Building student engagement through a continued community and school focus on positive student and on-time attendance at school
- * Building student wellbeing through a strong focus on restorative practice and positive school wide behaviours.
- * Continued focus on school improvement initiatives through our buildings and grounds. (You may have noticed the most recent grounds improvement initiative completed over the Xmas holidays - replacement of the seats under the Davey Street cypress trees and in the top level of our school under the shady trees).
- * Developing and improving home-school communication.
- * To name just a few!



Celebrating a Great Community Coming Together!

Parent and Carer Association News – Picnic in the Garden

Thank you very much to our Parent and Carer Association for the organisation of our pre-start of the year Picnic in the Garden!



We will be forwarding information shortly about the first meeting of the new year for our school Parent and Carer Association. This will be the Annual General Meeting, where office bearer positions are voted on and the meeting schedule for the year set. We look forward to many interested parents and carers coming along – please look out for further information.

School – Parent Communication

Parent Information Sessions – enhancing school and teacher communication

In order to enhance our school communication and connection with parents we are holding Parent Information Sessions. We believe this is a great way to support parent knowledge about our school and about the focus for each year level and a strong way to build school communication between teachers and parents/families.

Please book these nights into your diaries and schedules to come along:

- Prep – 2 – Tuesday 18th February 6 – 7pm
- 3 – 6 – Wednesday 19th February 6 – 7pm

Please note that all of our teaching staff are available to meet with parents and carers to discuss individual student needs – please just ring the office and leave a message – our teaching staff will return call to book in a mutually available time. Our Assistant Principal, Jo Booth, is our student wellbeing coordinator and is also available to meet with and support students and families – please don't hesitate to contact our office to talk with Jo at any time.

2020 Curriculum Days

For the start of this year all of our staff participated in two days of professional learning.

Our first day centred on our school goal of improving student learning in Reading – and we focused on building on and furthering our knowledge in developing student reading comprehension skills.

Our second day focused on our goal of improving student wellbeing – and we furthered our focus on a strong positive relational student wellbeing school culture with Adam Voigt from Real Schools. Both of these days were highly successful in supporting our whole school development and we are very excited to be building this work into our classrooms and across our school to maximise learning and student wellbeing for all of our students.



real
schools

Keep the Date Free – **We will be hosting a Real Schools Parent Information Webinar Session on Wednesday 4th March – *Building a Resilient Child*.**

A webinar is a great way for us to host the parent information session as:

1. Parents can access the information session without having to leave home
2. As a school we will be able to make it available to parents at a later day who are not able access it or cannot dial in. More information to come!

Organisational

Morning Bell Times

Students are asked to arrive at school for an 8.50am bell. This first bell is a signal for teachers and students to enter their classrooms and prepare for the day (changing readers, handing in notices, taking chairs down, checking in etc) so they are ready to begin instruction time at 9am. On time attendance at school is vitally important and we hope to see students in classes at these times to give them the best opportunity for a successful day.

School Council 2020

Our final School Council meeting for our 2019 council is Tuesday 11th February, with our 2020 School Council's first meeting of the year being Tuesday 10th March.

School Councils play a key role in Victorian government schools. Frankston Primary School Council is made up of a parent body, staff representatives and a co-opted community member. Participating as a school council member is a rewarding and challenging experience.

School Council:

- is a focal point for decision making on governance school policies
- is the governing body at the school
- is a representative body at the school
- is a representative body with a membership reflecting the important partnership between students, teachers and parents
- is accountable to the local community.

School Council meets a minimum of eight times through the year and conducts an annual general meeting and annual reporting meeting in March. We will have 4 parent School Council positions vacant to fill for the 2020 School Council – 3 of these positions are for a 2 year tenure and 1 position is for a 1 year tenure. The first point of call is for nominations and then a possible election if required – further information will be sent out to parents in the upcoming weeks.

Coronavirus

Please note that we sent home the most recent information for schools and parents by the Department of Education and Training yesterday – as mentioned, we will continue to ensure our staff and community are kept up to date with all relevant notifications as established by the Education Department. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions in regards to this matter.

Mobile Phone Policy

Towards the end of 2019 the Education Department established new guidelines in relation to student mobile phone policy in schools from Term One 2020. Please note that Frankston Primary School's current student mobile phone practice and policy is in accordance with the Department – all students at Frankston Primary School hand in their mobile phone or devices to the school office on arrival at school and pick them up at the end of the day. For a full copy of our Mobile Phone Policy – please see our school website.

School Privacy Information

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in our School Privacy Policy. To remind yourself of these functions and to access the Privacy Policy, please see our school website.

Second-hand Uniform Shop - Swap, Sell or Donate

Our first second hand uniform swap, sell or donate session is scheduled for next Tuesday 4th February 3pm near the school flag pole (front office). Parents and Carers have found this a valuable support over the last few years.

Monday Morning Assembly

We will be holding our first Monday morning assembly this Monday morning – please note that prep students will not attend this first assembly. This will be a short assembly – starting approx. 9am. We hope to see you there!

Renée Kennedy
Principal