



Small School Big Learning

Yering Primary School

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Newsletter

No. 1: February 15th, 2024

Our Vision: Developing independent, confident and creative learners in an individualised learning environment

We value Teamwork, Respect, Responsibility & Independence

Dates to Remember

Grade 5/6 Kayaking (date TBC)

Animated Wonders incursion

Cooking/Free Dress Day – Family Dinner

Animated Wonders incursion

Animated Wonders incursion

Harmony Week

Animated Wonders incursion

Animated Wonders incursion

Term 1 concludes

Term 2 commences

Tuesday, February 27th

Wednesday, February 28th

Friday, March 1st

Wednesday, March 6th

Wednesday, March 13th

Monday, March 18th

Wednesday, March 20th

Wednesday, March 27th

Thursday, March 28th

Monday, April 15th

Mrs Cole's Column

Welcome to the 2024 school year. Everyone seems well rested and ready for another busy school year ahead, with exciting events happening in Term 1.

A big welcome to our new students, Harmony, Adele and Hector and their families.



Congratulations to Zoey who received the 2023 Wandin Rotary Club Citizenship Award. Well done Zoey!



Also congratulations to Khloe who received the 2024 Yering Primary School scholarship. Well done Khloe!

Coming up in Term 1 we will have Pancake Tuesday, a series of incursions over 5 weeks completing a course around Animated Wonders, School Council AGM, kayaking for Grade 5/6 students (optional), Family Dinner (cooking); just to name a few things.

I would like to thank Jess Brooks for her work on Parent Club and School Council over the years that she was present at Yering PS as a parent. Your time was very much appreciated. Also a big thank you to Kerrie Steur for her support of our school over the last 7 years. Kerrie attended working bees, Bunnings sausage sizzles and whatever else she could. To both of you, we appreciate all your involvement in our school.

I would also like to wish Keira and Zoey, both students since Prep grade, all the very best for their commencement at secondary school for this year.

If you wish to meet with a staff member, please ensure that you make a convenient time that suits both parties that does not impact on our student learning times and supervision. Staff need to be in class as soon as our morning briefing/assembly is over. Communication with staff should be kept well-timed and I encourage all of you to keep conversations with staff around your child's well-being and education. Please send an email or touch base in passing and we can arrange a time that suits each of us.

In 2024, Meridith's hours are as follows:

Wednesday - All day

Thursday - All day

In 2024, Ruth's hours are as follows:

Monday – All day

Tuesday – All day

Wednesday – from morning recess

Friday – All day

In 2024, Leanne's hours are as follows:

Monday – All day

Tuesday – All day

Thursday – All day

In 2024, Charmelle's hours are as follows:

Thursday – All day

Janet Orchard, our Business Manager, is here on Thursdays only.

It is important to ensure your child is coming to school unless they are unwell. School attendance is very important to your child's learning. A day or two of being absent means they may have missed out on the learning of new concepts and information, which can also create added stress to learning when they return. Arriving on time daily to start class is also very important. It places added stress on students if they miss out on instructions at the start of the day, and cause disruptions to their class when they walk in late.

Over the year we will provide many extra-curricular activities for the school community. Extra-curricular activities are activities that fall out of the normal curriculum that is provided; outside of the normal routine. They are activities like swimming, excursions, camps, sporting events and clinics, incursions, etc. Most of our excursions/incursions, etc will occur to enhance student learning in the classroom.

Just a reminder that the age to join social media like Facebook, Snapchat and other social media platforms is 13 years of age. There are many stories around social media, some good and some not so good. Please be aware of the hazards around social media in regards to your child/ren. Their well-being is most important.

Breakfast Club **will not** operate this term, but we do have supplies at school for those who, at times, may not have had anything to eat before their school day commences. Throughout 2024, we will continue to share our educational journey with you, highlighting what our students are doing at Yering PS, in the newsletter. Please take the time to read the Class Talk section of the newsletter each fortnight and be present in your child's

education with us. There are also many important items in the newsletter each fortnight, so please make sure that you take the time to read it carefully and place important dates on your calendar or in your diary. It is one form of important communication that we use.

I would like to thank the following people for coming to school over the holidays to have the school grounds ready for students to start school – Ruth and Bruce Butler, and the Steur family. Thank you to Ellen Adams for mowing and whipper snipping over the holidays.

I didn't call a working bee toward the end of the holidays this year but if you happen to find you have some spare time and would like to help out around the school there is some mulch that could go up near the toilet area (please see me as to where to needs to go) and some weeds and small oak trees that might need pulling.

Deanna Cole

Principal

Quote for the fortnight: Fairness does not mean everyone gets the same. Fairness means everyone gets what they need.

Office Items

Just a reminder of our banking details for when you are depositing money into the school account. They are as follows:

Yering Primary School Official Account

Commonwealth Bank

BSB: 063 093

Account No: 1000 2816

Please ensure that you include your family name when paying money into the account.

Janet has given CSEF forms to those eligible families to complete and return to the office by Thursday 15th February.

Janet has also provided an annual combined permission notice for those who haven't yet returned them. These notices are to provide permission for your child to have stingose applied, go on local excursions and media photos, for example.

Annual Privacy Reminder For Our School Community

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

Staffing for 2024

The staff and their roles at Yering for 2024 are:

Deanna Cole	Principal Classroom Teacher Music/Drama
Meridith Day	Student Support Classroom Teacher (Thurs) Phys Ed Art
Janet Orchard	Business Manager (Thurs)
Ruth Butler	Integration Aide / Student Support (Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri)
Leanne Oberg	Integration Aide / Student Support (Mon/Tues/Thursday)
Charmelle Adams	Integration Aide / Student Support (Thursday) Casual Relief Teacher
Kathryn Vine	MARC Van (Library)
Ashleigh Katsi	LOTE (Japanese)

Music/Drama: Monday

Fitness: Tuesday (Deanna) / Wednesday (Deanna)

Art: Thursday

PE: Wednesday

LOTE (Japanese): Wednesday

MARC Van: Friday

2024 School Captain

Our Grade 6 student, Jordan will take on the role of School Captain this year.

The role of School Captain entails presenting the weekly assembly (Friday mornings), helping with the school newsletter, representing our school, changing the front sign and performing numerous public speaking tasks. I'm sure Jordan will take on the role confidently and continue to display a positive role model for all our students. Jordan will be presented with her School Captain's badge in the near future.

Student Medication

If your child is on any medication at any time throughout the year and you require staff to administer it on your behalf, please ensure that you fill in a medication form. These can be collected from a staff member.

The DET Medication Policy states that schools should not store or administer analgesics such as Aspirin and Paracetamol as a standard first aid strategy as they can mask signs and symptoms of serious illness or injury, therefore Panadol will not be given unless it comes to school for your child and a medication form is completed by a parent.

School Council Elections

School Council elections will be coming up soon. Please think about the impact you can make to your child's education by becoming involved on School Council. More information on school council nominations and elections will follow shortly.

School Uniform

Please ensure that your child is in full school uniform at all times. If a photo opportunity arises full school uniform is required, as well as on school excursions. Please see our website to view our uniform policy.

Please note on free dress days appropriate hats, footwear and clothes that cover shoulders and midriff still need to be worn.

Student Absences



If your child is going to be absent on any day please let a staff member know by 9.15am. Staff will contact you if you do not let the school know.

Remember: *It's not cool to miss school.*

Absences over a whole school year can equate to:

0 – 6: This is within normal range. A child with this attendance rate is able to take full advantage of the teaching and learning opportunities available to them.

7 – 10: This attendance rate is below average. A child with this attendance rate could miss over 1 year of schooling between Prep and Year 10.

11 – 20: This is a poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss out on up to 2 years of schooling between Prep and Year 10.

20+: This is a very poor attendance rate. A child with this attendance rate could miss over 2.5 years of schooling between Prep and Year 10. Remember:

- Students need to attend school regularly to make the most of educational opportunities.
- There is a direct link between school attendance and achievement later in life.
- Poor patterns of attendance in the early years lead to poor patterns of attendance throughout the school years.
- Poor attendance makes it difficult to form positive relationships with their peers.

Punctuality



Punctuality to school is extremely important to your child's day. It makes the day start well for your child and creates less distraction for those already working in the classroom. Being late means important instructions may have been missed.

Remember: *It's not great to be late.*

Sunsmart



Yering is a SunSmart School and students, staff and parents are encouraged to adopt Sunsmart practices. The wearing of hats at school is **compulsory** during term 1/early term 2 (up until April 30th) and term 4. If a student fails to bring an appropriate hat to school they are required to spend recess times in the undercover area.

No Hat, No Play.

Sunscreen is available at school for all students to put on if they wish.

Newsletter

Newsletters and photos will be emailed to everyone each fortnight, so please make sure we have your current email address. The newsletter also appears on our website. Please ensure you read the newsletter carefully. It will have important announcements about what is happening at school in regard to your child's education.

Facebook Page



Don't forget to check out our Facebook page where many events and other information are listed for your perusal. Please like and follow our page.

I would like to thank Daniel Adams for the upkeep of our Facebook page for the past few years. A very big thank you Daniel.

Late Arrival / Early Dismissal Book

If your child/children arrives late for school or leaves early for the day please fill in the late arrival/early dismissal book which is kept in the rack near the staffroom door. Where possible, when making appointments for your child it is much better for them to be made after school hours to avoid disruptions to their learning.

Personal goods brought to school

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

Please note the Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Personal Devices

Student's personal devices, such as iPads, tablets, mobile phones, etc, are not permitted at school, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Before & After School Duty

Please note that staff are not required to be on duty until 8.45am each morning. If your child arrives before that time, they will be unattended in the yard.

After school, staff are on duty until 3.30pm, due to our finish time of 3.15pm. Your child will be brought inside and can be picked up from the office, if you arrive after that time.

Car Park



For safety reasons, it is strongly recommended that you enter the car park from the Coldstream end of the crossing. The line in the road is broken on that side for turning into the car park.

When departing, for safety reasons also, please leave the car park from the Yarra Glen end, no matter what direction you are travelling. There is a mirror to help see the traffic coming from Coldstream toward the crossing, making it safer and easier to pull out there. Please make sure anyone else, grandparents, friends, etc, who may pick up your child/ren, are aware of these safety measures. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

School Crossing

Students must cross the road and be brought into school with an adult each morning. Students must also be collected from the school grounds after school hours, waiting beyond the paved area at the front of the school near the basketball court. Please ensure that the gate is opened by an adult to enter and exit the school and ensure that your child is leaving through the gate. Please also make sure other unaccompanied children are not going through the gate with you. These guidelines need to be followed for safety reasons.

Brain Food



Please note that we encourage the students to bring along some fruit/vegetables to school for consumption at 10am each morning to feed the brain and keep it going until recess time. Some students mention that they are hungry at that time of day. Please make sure the fruit or vegetable/s is something that can be eaten while they are working, minimising mess, for example, apple, dried apricots or sultanas, banana, cherry tomatoes, carrot sticks, etc. Drink bottles can be placed on tables for students to sip at during the day, filled with water only. Please do not freeze these as the condensation from the bottles spoils student work.

We generally have apples, oranges and sometimes carrots supplied by Foodbank, available for students to eat throughout the day.

Lunch Boxes

A healthy lunch box keeps your child focused and energized at school for the whole day.

We have a student fridge in the hallway for students to place their lunch box in if they have something like chicken, rice or yogurt that might need to be kept cool. This fridge is also used for Term 2 & 3 when we allow the students to bring along lunches to heat in our pie warmer.

Class Talk

Whole School Writing focus

Our writing focus for the first part of the term is **narratives**.

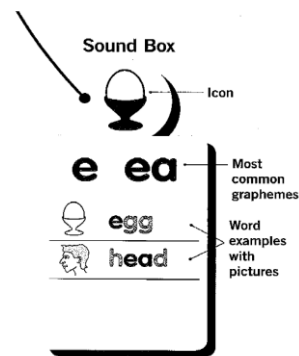
A narrative is an account of a series of related events or experiences whether non-fictional (memoir, biography,

news, report, etc) or fictional (fairy tale, fable, legend, thriller, novel, etc). Narratives can be presented through a sequence of written or spoken words, through still or moving images, or through any combination of these.

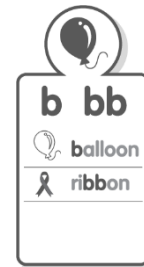
Spelling Program – Soundwaves

We will be working on our Soundwaves spelling program again this year. The sound boxes for each sound we have just completed will appear in the newsletter each fortnight. The most common graphemes (letters) are listed in the sound box, although there are often others that may be less common.

Sound boxes look like:



We have covered the following phonemes (sounds) – 'b' as in balloon.



Sound Box

Whole School Maths focus for Term 1

Place Value

Addition

Subtraction

Length

Area and Perimeter

Science Focus for Term 1

Physical Science

The heat is on

Integrated Studies for Term 1

Ethical Capability (4 weeks)

Design and Technology (5 weeks)