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KEY DATES AND EVENTS

Friday 27 August

Primary Book Week Incursion via Zoom

Thursday 2 September

Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday 3 September

Year 1 Western Water Incursion

Thursday 9 September

6pm - 7pm 2022 Year 7
Parent Information Night

Friday 17 September

Last Student Day Term 3

Wednesday 22 September

7pm-9pm Secondary Musical Performance

Thursday 23 September

7pm-9pm Secondary Musical Performance

Friday 24 September

4pm & 7pm Secondary Musical Performance

Please refer to email communications for more information and check calendar for updates

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Earth is the Lord's

Dear Parents,

I'm not ancient, but I certainly did grow up in a different world.

For example ... When I was a child the milkman delivered milk with a horse-drawn cart. It's true! It was one of the joys of my morning, to listen for the clop-clopping horseshoes, and when I heard that sound I would scramble to the window to see the horse. The horse was one of those huge Clydesdales with shaggy feet and proudly rounded nose. It never stopped. It knew its route, and plodded steadily without need of direction from the milkman who was busy grabbing the clinking milk bottles from the cart and running them to the front steps of the houses.

A different world. A whole world away from now, but why am I telling you these memories? Let me explain.

Right now, lockdown-normal feels like a different world from normal-normal, and school parents could be worrying about their children missing out on learning. I am not going to pretend that there isn't any school learning being missed; of course there is. Teachers in normal settings provide continuity that they simply cannot provide via online learning. That's just our reality.

But let's not miss the flipside of this reality because despite the different world we live in now, children still learn. Children always learn, they are natural learners. They are wired to learn, wherever and whatever their surroundings.

Right now, in this different world of so little school-life and so much home-life, your children

are still learning, and they will be learning unplanned lessons; life lessons that are mighty valuable. Here's a few life lessons your children are learning right now...

- They are learning how grown-ups respond to challenge. They are learning that from you.
- They are learning how the house stays tidy, and that that doesn't happen by itself.
- They are learning patience, tolerance and resilience.
- They are learning that little things make big differences.
- They are learning that loving your family feels nice, and that squabbling feels horrid.
- They are learning that there are skills to making a household function.
- They are learning that too much screen time makes you feel awful. We know that.
- They are learning the value of their parents.
- They are learning to see themselves as part of a family, part of a tribe, with a sense of belonging and identity, a sense of identity among their family, not just their school.

Catch those wonderful lessons. We are in a different world right now, but learning is still happening. Be kind to your children, value your household, value its inherent lessons, and be kind to yourselves.

Yours sincerely,

David Gleeson Principal



WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

Matthew 18:20 (NIV)





PRIMARY UPDATE

I want to start by saying, "Well done."

You may not feel like you are doing very well but let me reassure you that whatever at-home learn-ing you are managing to complete with your child, you are doing them a great service. Every little bit will help. Our message is always constant. Do the best you can. When you need a 'break-day', have a break day. When you can't be on Zoom every day, be on Zoom when you can. When you need support, let us know. Your child's homeroom teachers are there for you. The coordinators, me and Mr Gleeson are there for you. This isn't easy for you. This isn't easy for Victoria. All of us desperately want our children back at school (something just doesn't feel right when the school isn't full of children busily learning and interacting with each other). Hang in there. The staff are constantly praying for you and your children.

This week we have seen a few exciting changes:

- Monday Book Week began with the students dressing up as their favourite picture book character and sharing their favourite picture books. It was lovely to see so many excited faces Monday morning.
- Friday We will have a virtual incursion from "Tony Bones". This year we are being treated to a production of Littlelight. One of the notable picture books for 2021! We have had "Tony Bones" perform for us over the last few years and he is always enjoyable to watch.
- Friday At the end of the day we are having a Community Catch-Up time. The children will be able to meet with their homeroom teacher/s and just relax and

chat.

 The rest of the week there will be lots of other literacy activities and our very own ICT Librarian, Mr Joshua Passarini, has also prepared some great storytelling videos for our children.

Remember to use Canvas as this is where you will find everything you need for each day. I hope you and your children enjoy the different things that are happening this week.

Let's keep praying that we are all back together onsite very soon.

Take care and stay safe,

Jodie Vamplew Head of Primary





Primary Book Week 2021

SECONDARY UPDATE

Despite lockdown restrictions resulting in many events being postponed or even cancelled, we are both pleased and relieved that Parent-Teacher Conversations will still go ahead on Thursday, September 02 as scheduled.

All our Parent-Teacher Conversation meetings will be conducted via Zoom.

In keeping with our usual, onsite Parent-Teacher Conversation day, all of our secondary teachers will all be taking part in these important conversations. As such, no secondary online classes will be running on Thursday, September 02. Students can use the time to independently complete any

unfinished learning activities or use it as a day for rest and restoration.

Discussing your child's Term 3 progress and offering specific recommendations on how they can improve moving forward is the main purpose of these Parent-Teacher Conversations. We know that all of our parents understand the importance of these crucial conversations and see it as important that we didn't postpone or cancel this day in our calendar.

Earlier this week you would have received an email explaining how to make an appointment to see your child's teachers. You have until midnight on Wednesday, September 01 to make appointments, after which time the site will be closed off from making bookings. Further correspondence on how to access the ZOOM meetings will come in the following week.

I pray that these meetings will be helpful and the conversations fruitful. As always, if you have any questions please connect with your homeroom teacher.

Mr Derek Bendall Head of Secondary





SPOTLIGHT ON WELLBEING

A Balancing Act With Purpose

Over the past couple of weeks, I have been asked over and over in different ways, how is it possible to feel and function as a well being when our freedom is restricted, in an uncertain environment that we cannot control.

I have found myself sharing a suggestion that I learnt from growing up in outback Queensland in a land of relentless droughts then honed when experiencing anxiety later in life. (Both versions of uncomfortable realities, I could not control).

The fact is, our emotions are important, they tell us what we feel and can influence our decisions, but they are not always helpful or reliable. It is important that we maintain a balance when it comes to our emotions. The clue is found in the word, 'E MOTIONS', they take us somewhere.

There are times when we experience difficult things and it is imperative to deal with the source of those feelings, and to access support to do so. But here, I am discussing the day to day difficult emotions that can come from nowhere and take us on a journey to where we don't want to be.

Here, it is good that we acknowledge how we are feeling and realise that is for good reason, (lockdown, pandemic, school is different, home is work, work is home etc). Then a simple suggestion to try, is to do something that adjusts your day a little.

Decide to choose a different E-MOTION, (one that serves you well), that takes you to a better day. EG: I wake up feeling down, I acknowledge that well and then, rather than embracing that emotion and pulling the covers over my head, I determinedly choose, to be inquisitive, determined, or thankful.

Sometimes I choose to simply act, take a walk, brush my teeth and surprisingly, I am on a slightly different path. A path to movement, towards breakfast and a shower, to achieving something (even small), to relief that I am in control of something and that something might just be me. God has made us pretty special, and he has designed us with free will to choose. Choose this day, an emotion that serves you well and always reach if you need support. We need each other and that is good. (Psalm 31:24, Matthew 6:34, Proverbs 3:5-6, John 14:27, 1 Thessalonians 5:11)

Bonnie Lang Head of Wellbeing





A Balancing Act With Purpose

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Uniform Shop (Located in the College Auditorium)

The Uniform shop is closed due to current restrictions.

Regular hours will commence if restrictions have been eased, on Friday, October 1.

MCC Uniform Shop opening hours:

Wed to Fri - 8:45am - 11am & 2 - 4pm.

Orders can be placed at the Uniform Shop or via email with an order form on the College website.

MCC Uniform Shop Manager: Denise Eddy

MCC Uniform Shop contact details - Ph: 9732 3019; Email: uniformshop@mcc.vic.edu.au

Melton Christian College is a ministry of Melton Christian Church

For information on service times, go to: www.mcchurch.com.au



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Australia

Outside School Hours Care service is open and operating for those that need care, and will provide your children with much-needed familiarity and continuity through our engaging programs. It's FREE to Register (and if you want to use OSHC, you first need to register).

Register at pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it's easy to make and manage your bookings online via the Parent Portal. Visit the blog: https://campaustralia.com.au/blog

Reusable Face Masks Available

Ultra-comfort, reusable face masks available for purchase from Reception.

With adjustable nose bar and ear loops to reduce fogging and for a perfect fit, these soft-to-touch cotton face masks have odour control to keep your face fresh, dry and odour free. ANTI-MICROBIAL FINISH TEXPEL MICRO™ kills 99.9% of bacteria.

One size fits most. Available in black or navy for \$4.50

Let's do the right thing for our environment and reduce waste.

Avoid single use and go reusable!







PRIMARY MUSICAL



