

Marong Primary School Newsletter



Ph.: 54352288 Fax: 54352499 www.marongps.vic.edu.au

Volume 23 Issue 1 2nd February 2018

Diary Dates 2018

February

15th: Parents Club Meeting 7:30pm

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2018 School Year at Marong Primary School!

A warm welcome back to all returning students and their families and a special welcome to all our new students and their respective families. On behalf of the staff I wish to say how much we are looking forward to working with your child/ren this year. At this stage we will commence with an enrolment of 151 students, although we anticipate more enrolments throughout the year as people move into the new estate.

Wedding Bells

During the vacation Bridget Gallagher and her partner Adrian were married and Keira Haddow and her partner Brendan also celebrated their wedding. I wish to congratulate them all and wish them the very best for the future. Keira will now be known as Mrs Keira Jennings and Bridget will continue to be known as Miss Gallagher.

Outside School Hours Care

A reminder to parents who utilise the Outside School Hours Care program that it is school policy that fee payments must be up to date. All fees from a previous term must be paid in order for bookings to be accepted in the following term. If you have any concerns over fee payment it is essential that you make an appointment to meet with the principal to discuss your individual situation.

Pat on the Back

A Pat on the Back is awarded to Madi Higgins who was a tireless worker on Monday and Tuesday this week moving furniture and classroom resources into the portables. Madi did a large amount of this work unassisted as all other staff were involved in a training program. Super job Madi!

Facilities Upgrade

Over the vacation we had a new modular building installed onsite. The old wooden building at the eastern end of the school will not be used as a general purpose classroom at this point in time. This year it will house our OSHC program and our specialist teachers will conduct Science and Performing Arts lessons in this building.

Tony Di Mase our appointed architect is putting the final touches on our design for tender documents. Once completed we will wait with all fingers crossed for hopefully an announcement of funding for the project in this years state budget.

Staffing 2018

Prep/1 Sally Brown Alice Thorn Keira Jennings

Gr 2 Bridget Gallagher

Gr 3/4 Matt Riordan Corbin Stacey

Gr 5/6 Lindsey White (Mrs White will teach four days per week, an announcement regarding the teacher who will take Gr 5/6 on the fifth day will be made asap.

Performing Arts: Jacqui Whatley

Library Brooke Ball

Science: Prep / 1 Emma Cook Science Gr 2-6 Melissa Patching

LOTE (Chinese language) Yimin CHEN

School Fees

All parents are advised that school fees for the 2018 School year are now due. The costs for this year are as follows:

Prep, Grade One and Grade Two students : \$150 per child.

Grade 3/4/5/6 : \$175 per child.

Unlike some schools we do not have an annual booklist requiring parents to purchase their child's resources prior to the start of school. Rather, we purchase in bulk and therefore reduce costs to parents. In addition, with regard to subscriptions we continually negotiate the best deals possible to again keep costs to a minimum. Unlike other schools we do not charge an additional \$150 plus, per child to access netbooks. We have undertaken research comparing the costs charged by schools that have a booklist with the fees we charge. The results indicate that we remain one of the most affordable schools in the district. Our fees are not voluntary and it is an expectation that all families pay them. Terms for payment are available for anyone experiencing financial hardship please contact Mr Jeffrey to discuss alternative arrangements. Throughout the year we will also request payment from parents for such events as school camps, excursions and special events. Advance notification will be provided to parents regarding these events and costs.

Russell Jeffrey

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) Applications Open

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is:

•• \$125 for primary school students •• \$225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form if required or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Chaplains Corner

How lovely it was to come back to school and see all those smiling faces again! The excitement of new grades, pencil cases and class mates was palpable with a hive of expectation and fun: and that was just the children. After talking with parents it seemed there was a mix of sighs of relief after long holidays, coffee date plans, excitement of cleaning the house and knowing it will stay that way for a few hours, through to the sadness of having silence until pick up time. Wherever you are on that continuum we are in for a jam packed year.

I look forward to reconnecting with familiar faces and meeting and getting to know the new families to our school. My role as the School Chaplain (Wellbeing) is to support all children, families and staff with anything that impacts them both within the school and out-all in a confidential setting.

Appointments can be made anytime at the school office or feel free to 'pop' by my office anytime for a chat. I am next door to Mrs Brown's room and I am available Monday and Friday.

Looking forward to sharing 2018 with you all.

Shiralee Dawkins Chaplain

Parents Club News

Parents Club will be holding their first meeting Thursday, 15th Feb 7:30pm at Marong Family Hotel. Everyone is welcome and it's a great way to be involved with the school. We also have an unofficial Facebook group for any new parents that would like to join please search for 'Marong Primary School parents'.



