

Preston West Post

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www.prestonwest.vic.edu.au

Preston West Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 5th August 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

August

Tuesday 10 th	School Council Meeting at 5.30
Friday 13 th	3/4 Hooptime
Monday 16 th	Curriculum Day (No Students this day)
Tuesday 24 th	Grade 3 Healesville Sanctuary Excursion
Wednesday 25 th	JSC – Book Character Dress up

Term Dates

Term 3 Monday 12th July – Friday 17th September

Term 4 Monday 4th October – Friday 17th December

Principal's Note

Curriculum Day – Monday 16th August

Just a reminder to parents that **Preston West Primary will have a curriculum day on Monday 16th August. This will be a pupil free day.** Teaching and Educational Support staff will receive professional development on the Department's Cultural Understanding and Safety Training (lead by our Regional Koori Officers). During the afternoon, staff will commence evaluating our achievements over the period of our last Strategic Plan (2017-2021) in relation to Department's Framework for Improving Student Outcomes (Excellence in Teaching & Learning, Professional Leadership, Positive Climate for Learning and Community Engagement in Learning).

Attitudes to Schooling Survey Results

Last term students in Grade 4-6 completed the Department of Education and Training's Student Opinion Survey. The student survey aligns with the Framework for Improving Student Outcomes and their feelings towards numerous factors that have proven to positively contribute to student outcomes and engagement were measured. When averaging all scores from Grades 4-6 the following results were achieved:

- Teaching and Learning - 85% positive responses. Covers - effective teaching time, differentiated learning challenge, classroom behaviour, high expectations on success, teacher concern, effort and stimulating learning.
- Learning characteristics and disposition - 84% positive responses. Covers - learning confidence, perseverance, motivation, interest, self-regulation, goal setting and attitudes to attendance.
- Social engagement - 82% positive responses. Covers school connectedness, student agency/voice and sense of inclusion.
- Student safety - 86% positive responses. Covers advocate at school, managing bullying and respect for diversity.

These results will be compared alongside the parent and staff opinion surveys to establish our strengths as a school community and areas requiring further development.

Preps 100 days of schooling celebration

Our Prep students had a wonderful day last Friday celebrating their 100 days at Preston West Primary School. They undertook a range of different activities to acknowledge and celebrate their 100 days of their schooling journey. Special thanks to the parents/carers for the efforts with costumes and the individual special lunches.

School Council

Just a reminder to our School Council members that our next meeting will be conducted on Tuesday 10th August at 5.30pm.

Cheryl Bondeson

JSC

This term at Preston West we will be celebrating the CBCA Book Week, 'Old worlds, new worlds, other worlds. On Wednesday the 25th of August the Junior School Council will be holding a dress-up day fundraiser! We encourage everyone to dress up and their favourite book character and bring a gold coin donation for a charity to be announced! We can't wait to see everyone in their costumes!

Thanks
JSC





Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Preston West Primary School is excited to be participating. The PRC application offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
- a modern user-friendly interface
- rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 17 September 2021.

To make the process more streamlined for parents/carers, the school has already registered every student at Preston West Primary. Therefore, if your child wishes to take part in the challenge, all they need to do is log in with the details provided.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 6 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

Please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/prc:

- to login (using log in details provided by your classroom teacher)
 - All students will receive their specific login details from their classroom teacher by Friday 6th August. Students at Preston West Primary need to click on VPRC Login and enter their log in details.
- to view the booklist
- for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

Upcoming English and Maths ICAS assessments

Each year Preston West has participated in the ICAS English and Maths Competitions. Both are open to students in Grades 2 – 6. It is a parent/student choice as to whether your child would like the opportunity to participate.

- ICAS Assessments are online assessments, designed to recognise and reward academic excellence.
- The assessments are based on the curricula for the relevant year. Students are asked to demonstrate a deeper, integrated, and thorough level of learning.
- To ensure an engaging and beneficial experience for all students, new ICAS assessments are developed annually for each subject in every year level.

Benefits

Encourage students to attain greater academic success.
Require students to think beyond the classroom.
Recognise student success through medals and certificates.

The English and Maths assessments are now available for parents to login and pay directly online. Follow the link below and simply enter your child's details. You need to enter before August 6th 2021.

School: Preston West Primary School

Link: <https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>

Access Code: **ISE537**

Test sitting days

Test Name	Cost online	Sitting date
ICAS English	\$17.05 (inc. GST)	Tuesday 17 th August 2021
ICAS Mathematics	\$ \$17.05 (inc. GST)	Thursday 2 nd September 2021

Please note that if students are absent on the above scheduled assessment date they will not be able to complete the test.

Practice tests are available using this link:

<https://sites.google.com/prestonwest.vic.edu.au/icas/home>

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions anita.oleary@education.vic.gov.au or phone 03 94701546.