

Preston West Post

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Preston West Primary School Newsletter

Thursday 18th November 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

November

Tuesday 16th – Thursday 25th

Grade 2 Department Funded Swim & Survive Safety Program

Tuesday 23rd

Grade 1M, 1N & 1Y Rippon Lea Estate Excursion

Wednesday 24th

Grade 4L & 4T Bicycle Excursion

Wednesday 24th

Grade 3 Healesville Sanctuary Excursion

Wednesday 24th

Grade 5 Superspeak Incursion

Thursday 25th

Prep C, Prep H & Prep K Mad About Science Incursion

Tuesday November 30th

Grade 1 Werribee Open Range Zoo Excursion

December

Thursday 2nd

Prep Latitude & Malahang Park Excursion

Monday 13th – Wednesday 15th

Grade 4 Lake Dewar Lodge Camp

Thursday 16th December

Grade 6 Big Day Out - Funfields

Friday 17th

Last Day of Term 4 – 1pm Finish

Term Dates

Term 4 Monday 4th October – Friday 17th December

Principal's Note

Grades for 2022

As the Principal of Preston West Primary School I work to ensure that we as a school community are doing the best for each and every one of our students, your children. Our staff work, both individually and in teams, to design an engaging and challenging curriculum that feeds rich and authentic learning experiences, so that we can equip your children with the skill and knowledge to be successful young adults. Our aim is to send our students off to secondary school with a broad set of social, emotional and academic competencies, so that they can thrive in their secondary school environment. We understand that each and every child is unique and because of this, their needs vary. We aim to cater for the diverse needs of all students and know that the wellbeing of your children is the foundation to them being ready and able to access learning. This is not an easy job, but we do our very best and ask for you as parents to trust and work with us to help to create these preconditions for learning.

The teachers have commenced the grade allocation process for 2022. This process seeks to ensure that the grades formed for next year are equitable in terms of academic, gender and social mix. In addition, teachers use their knowledge of friendship groups as another factor in the placement of children. Teachers in area teams use a pro-forma to place children according to their overall academic abilities and behaviour. Students are also asked to identify a small group of friends they would like to be in a classroom with – we endeavour to ensure they will be with at least one selected friend. A computer program (Class Creator) is then utilised to form the initial grade groupings. The initial lists are then reviewed by staff with knowledge and experience with these children to ensure that the social mix is also appropriate.

For the last few years parent requests have not been taken for students entering Grade 1-6 classes. Prior to this decision we were overwhelmed by the number of parents/carers who made special requests regarding their child's placement. This made the grade selection process impossible to accommodate all requests and for staff to create class groupings successfully and equitably. With the students we promote

the classroom as a learning environment and teachers work collaboratively with their new class each year to promote a 'team' focus, authentic relationships, and high expectations (behavioural, social and academic). Through our Resilient Respectful Learners and Bounce Back programs we also undertake teachings around characteristics such as persistence, resilience, wellbeing, equity, inclusion, courage etc. As per previous years, individual teacher requests will also not be considered. Students will be informed of their grade placements for 2022 and their teacher at the Promotional Parade on Friday 10th December.

Grade 2 Swimming

The Grade 2 students need to be congratulated for their enthusiasm, behaviour and improving skills at the pool. Due to yesterday's cancelled session, the final session of the intensive swimming program will be conducted next Thursday 25th November.

Child Safety – Working with Children Check

Just a reminder to parents/carers to keep an eye out on the expiry date of your Working with Children's Check to ensure your valuable support can continue at Preston West Primary School. As a result of its 2013 inquiry into the handling of child abuse, the Victorian Government mandated that organisations working with children adhere to a series of standards to promote child safety, prevent child abuse and respond to allegations. At Preston West Primary School we embed an organisational culture of child safety. We have mandatory reporting and child safety policies, a child safety code of conduct that can be viewed on our school website and a statement of commitment to child safety. We have processes in place for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse. To ensure Preston West Primary School is consistent and fully compliant with the Child Safety Guidelines we must:

1. **Ensure parents/adults do not access the student toilet blocks.** Toilets are available to parents in the main building if required.

2. **All parents who volunteer in any capacity at the school e.g., Guided Reading, Fresh Fruit Friday, Mother's/Father's Day stalls, Kitchen Garden, incursions and excursions will need to hold a current working with children check or criminal record check.** The school will maintain a file of all parents/volunteers that hold these checks. Parents can obtain a Working with Children's Check by following the link: www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au
Please note there is no charge to get a Working with Children's Check 'volunteer' card.

Parent support is a huge asset and greatly appreciated at Preston West Primary, as is promoting an organisational culture of child safety. If you have a current Working with Children Check or Criminal Record Check, can you please send a copy to the office. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

School Canteen

Please note that the school canteen will be closed until further notice.

Cheryl Bondeson

STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Week ending 12/11/2021

Congratulations to the following students, who were presented with their awards.

GRADE	“LEARN”	BOUNCE BACK
PREP C	Jack W	Fatimah A
Prep V	Jade Z	Crosby S
Prep K	Lucca H	Emily X
Prep D	Benjamin C	Archer M
1M	Arham K	Sebastian B
1A	Wyman W	Cohen M
1Y	Benjamin J	Ismael M
1B	Melissa C	Kyson H
1N	Indigo T	Liana D
2W	Kent N	Aaesha R
2M	Aaron Q	Hera H
2P	Nell B	Sylvie D L
2D	Iyla W	Aidan B
3F	Justine P	Ned J
3B	Reno M	
4L	Adam A	Giselle M
4M	Nisarga V	Arham U
4T	Henry M G	Niharika V
4H	Jack W	Heather W
5W	Lexie M	Jake G
5P	Ava M	Ruby C
5K	Julian P	Holly B
5B	Tina L	Miro M
6J	Rodrigo D A	Ruqaya I
6M	Felix W	Justin W
6N	Vera S	Ramona W
6S	Milla N	
ITALIAN	Emily X Prep K	
PE	Bronson V 4M	

