



NUMBER 24

12th AUGUST 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

VISION To provide a positive school environment that allows every individual the opportunity to flourish.



REMINDERS FOR WEEK SIX: TERM THREE 2021

Friday August 13 th	• Flourishing Friday 2:30pm
Monday August 16 th	•
Tuesday August 17 th	•
Wednesday August 18 th	•
Thursday August 19 th	• Assembly?
Friday August 20 th	• Whole School Excursion

PARENT SURVEY

A reminder that the Parent Survey is currently open. Last year we had 22 respondents. I would love to match or beat that number this year.

The survey remains open until Friday September 3rd.

Thank you to those 17 parents that have already completed the survey.

Muffin Monday



Starting on Monday the 16th. The school leaders are going to be serving muffins for one dollar each. Half the money raised will go to Grade 5/6 camp and the other half to Beyond Blue. So if you would like a muffin come with a dollar on Monday. The muffins are going to be made by Andreena.

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT

Due to last weeks' remote learning the following will now begin next Monday.

Over the next 2 weeks all students will be involved in lessons around Gratitude.

On Monday the Grade 5/6 students will learn how to identify small things to be grateful for.

Grade 3/4 will be learning how to give compliments and express gratitude. Prep/1/2 will be learning about what type of things people may be grateful for.

WHOLE SCHOOL EXCURSION – Friday August 20th

We are still planning on having this special event on Friday August 20th. Of course, it could be postponed at any stage, but we will remain prepared for it to go ahead.

PREP 2022

Enrolments - We are now taking 2022 enrolments. Unfortunately, due to the current regulations, we are unable to conduct school tours for 2022 enrolments, however, if you require an enrolment pack for a sibling please call the office to make pick up arrangements

All schools in the Portland and District area encourage students to go to their local school. Your local school can be found by visiting <https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au>

EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 3 DATES

August	Friday	13 th	-	'Flourishing Friday'
	Thursday	19 th	-	Assembly 3pm
	Friday	20 th	-	Whole School Excursion
	Friday	27 th	-	Pupil Free Day
September	Thursday	2 nd	-	District Basketball – Boys
	Thursday	9 th	-	District Basketball – Girls
	Friday	10 th	-	'Flourishing Friday'
	Thursday	16 th	-	Assembly 3pm
	Friday	17 th	-	Last Day of Term 3

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to John Simpson who will celebrate his birthday on Tuesday.

2021 PUPIL FREE DAYS

Friday August 27th

Friday December 3rd

RAFFLE – Winter Warmer Pamper Package

Tickets to be returned by Friday, 20th August.

The package will include a Crochet Blanket, Coffee, Milo, Chocolates and a School Beanie!

SILLY SOCKS DRIVE

Orders together with money need to be returned to school by Friday, 20th August. All profits will go towards grade 5/6 school camp.

Chaplains' Corner – Blessed are the Peacemakers

Not sure about you but I've become an amateur weather forecaster. No need for all that fancy radar stuff. The safest prediction is showers arriving, already here, but probably not going any time soon. The most rain in 100 years according to our Observer. That's a super damp drenching to be sure. And there's nothing we can do about it. Just survive with the hope that sunshine will be reinvented before too long.

But there's another kind of temperature where we have plenty of sway. It's what's happening at your place and mine. Not the reverse cycle kind, or the fireplace, or whatever keeps you warm. It's the emotional temperature, the heat and cold which happens between parents, between kids, between parents and kids. Our homes become battlegrounds where peace and harmony have long gone....

- **Deep within us is the longing, the hunger for peace** – We want our family temperature set at a level where we get along with each other, where teamwork just happens, where problems are identified and worked on as they arise. Sounds a bit too hard? Sure, but within reach most of the time.
- **Some of us are real ambassadors for peace** – By nature we are just naturally easy going types. Nothing much throws us. And if it does, there's always tomorrow. We just don't get wound up. We take it that life isn't perfect so we live with that. We can't see the point of losing the plot.
- **But some of us miss pushing the peace button** – We're experts at reacting, at going off the deep end. Everything is a crisis. There's always something to get worked up about. For whatever reason, we make everything a federal case. The result? The decibels go up, the yelling takes over.
- **The absence of peace at home is high price** – If every difficulty that turns up has to be solved by a messy showdown, there's no chance of closeness, of intimacy, of caring, of even loving. Why? Because everyone is stepping lightly around trying to avoid World War Three.
- **The angry parent is robbing the family of stability and care** – Every time there's an outburst the kids discover another piece of the family jigsaw on how to wreck relationships. The modelling of anger sets up a pattern of behaviour for the next generation which will, in turn, become an angry bunch.
- **So, where do we go looking for domestic peace?** – There's no mystery here. The response is obvious. The permanently angry parent has to own up to their destructive behaviour. This is not easy. It requires a burst of humility and the courage to apologise to the family and set things right.
- **Peace remains when life is imperfect** – It's not about everything going right. We wish. Rather we need to be wide eyed about the frequency of difficulties arriving without warning. This is life for all of us. We have to make the conscious decision to take a deep breath and think first.
- **And peace is wonderfully reinforcing** – The marvellous ingredient of peace is that when we sort some tricky issue out and keep our cool, we feel very good about it. What we thought would lead to all hell breaking loose, our peace filled counteraction defuses the problem. Everyone gets a tick.
- **Take note that peace just doesn't turn up** – It's not that easy. If anger has been our thing, we have to work very hard at facing this and making fresh choices which probably won't come easily to begin with. Like listening instead of sounding off. Like taking a deep breath, or counting to ten.

Peace is a gift to be given. When our kids arrive home from school, are they returning to a place of peace or conflict? A place of safety? Or a war zone? Why not give our families the gift of a home where peace is the covering? Where the front door is the entry to loving acceptance and joy? Blessed indeed are the peacemakers.

