

NUMBER 32

13th OCTOBER 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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

REMINDERS FOR WEEK THREE: TERM 2021

Friday October 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M, 5/6T & 5/6A at School • 3/4C Remote Learning
Monday October 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M at School • 3/4C, 5/6A & 5/6T Remote Learning
Tuesday October 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M & 3/4C at School • 5/6A & 5/6T Remote Learning
Wednesday October 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M & 3/4C at School • 5/6A & 5/6T Remote Learning
Thursday October 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M, 5/6T & 5/6A at School • 3/4C Remote Learning
Friday October 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep/1/2M, 5/6T & 5/6A at School • 3/4C Remote Learning

RETURN TO SCHOOL

We were delighted this week to have our Grade 3/4C class back at school Tuesday and Wednesday. We look forward to having 5/6T and 5/6A here Thursday and Friday. .



AVA'S DIABETES

Over the school holidays Ava Jacobsen spent 6 days in hospital in Warrnambool after being diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes.

After a steep learning curve Ava and her family are now ready to tackle this condition head on. Pictured is Ava this week telling her classmates all about her situation.

As a school we will be doing everything in our power to ensure that Ava's education is uninterrupted.

If you or your child have any questions about Diabetes, Ava or myself are happy to try and answer them.



MASK WEARING?



Our understanding (not confirmed yet by the Education Department) is that masks will become mandatory for Grade 3 to 6 students starting next week. We encourage students to wear masks this week in preparation.

Great to see the girls wearing their masks on Monday.

A positive outcome that I foresee once our life returns to some sense of normality – Our children will have real life Resilience skills that can apply positively through their teenage and young adult years, learnt through adapting and responding to this pandemic.

2021 PUPIL FREE DAYS

Friday December 3rd

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>

LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL HATS

**During term 4 school hats must be worn when out in the school yard.
Students who do not have a hat at school will need to stay/sit
in the undercover/shaded areas during recess and lunch times.
*'Under a Tree between 11 and 3'***

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Matilda Smith who turns 8 today, and Xavier who turns 12 on Saturday.

BOOKCLUB ISSUE 7 which was distributed today is due back at school by Friday, 29th October.

FRIDAY LUNCHES – We anticipate that Friday lunches will resume on 29th October.
Lunch order forms for Friday, 29th will go home on next week's newsletter.

Chaplain's Corner – Same family, different kids!

When our three boys arrived in fairly quick succession, we had our hands full. Busy days, sleepless nights, endless nappy changing, losing dummies, messy eating times and much else kept us on our toes. But a mystery emerged: how did we manage in one family to rear three very different people? All good blokes mind you (by mid-year all in their 40's) but each one is their own person.

Well, it's time to offer some ideas on this interesting mystery of differences. Here goes....

- **Our first son had P plate parents** – We practised our seriously deficient parenting skills on this poor, unsuspecting lad. By the time Luke (number three) arrived, we were different: more laid back and knew what we were about a fair bit of the time.
- **Our Luke thought he was adopted** – We had a truckload of photos of the first two boys but by the time he arrived the novelty of new arrivals had backed off a tad. He had a hard time finding pics of himself as a baby. What dreadful parents.
- **Adjustment and compromise became normal** – By the time we had five people under the same roof, our planning turned into a proper juggling act to accommodate everyone's needs. Give and take was the routine now. We were all adjusting.
- **We went out of our way to stimulate interests** – And the hobbies, sports, recreation and leisure all created friendship networks for each boy. While many were shared, each had his own special friends and projects. As you would expect.
- **Add to this the influence of school** – They had different teachers, classes, activities, friends, excursions. We were actively involved as parents in school life and expected that their experience of education would be different. It certainly was.
- **Each boy had a different tack on education** – The first two saw classwork being an occupational hazard while number three took it all in his stride. We had the same pre-bed reading times, offered the same support but with hugely different outcomes.
- **We reared the boys to lookout for each other** - Philip (number two) was Andy's bodyguard during lunch breaks (Andy's desire for justice was not always popular). Decades later they are all great mates still on the lookout. Each different but caring.
- **We were changing too** – The excited young couple with their first babe in arms became the older couple with heavy workloads, frequent work related travel demands, increased responsibilities. Coping required flexibility, creativity and wisdom.
- **Each boy had different experiences with us** – When I had to travel overseas for work, I usually took one or two of the lads with me. We had wonderful times together – with each having a very different way of enjoying these special adventures.

Yes, I'm well aware that much smarter people than I can point to the chromosome mix, the effects of genes and all the rest. That's a bit more than I can manage. But I do know that we did our best as parents and realise that we adapted our care of the boys to meet their varying needs – and they are still very different people!

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