



NUMBER 12

4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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



### REMINDERS FOR WEEK THREE: TERM TWO 2022

Friday May 5 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division Athletics in Warrnambool – Paddy, Dakota and Nathan</li> <li>• Flourishing Friday 2:30pm</li> <li>• Parent Community 3pm</li> </ul>
Monday May 8 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilience Project 2:30pm</li> </ul>
Tuesday May 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Resilience Project Parent Presentation 6:30pm</b></li> </ul>
Wednesday May 10 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Thursday May 11 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Cross-Country -am</li> <li>• Mother's Day stall pm</li> <li>• Assembly 3pm</li> </ul>
Friday May 12 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pupil Free Day</b></li> </ul>

### RESILIENCE PROJECT

**Parent & Carer Authentic Connection presentation (with other schools) on Tuesday 9th May from 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

Parents and Carers will need to register for the webinar using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/85986202000>

**\*\*Registrations are essential\*\***

- Anyone unable to access this event at home can contact me and we can set up a session at school.

### YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID – Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> & June 2<sup>nd</sup>

All Bolwarra staff will be involved in this course. The first day is on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> which is a student free day, and the second day on Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> – (students attend school).

The course teaches adults how to assist adolescents who are developing a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis. Course participants learn about adolescent development, the signs and symptoms of the common and disabling mental health problems in young people, where and how to get help when a young person is developing a mental illness, what sort of help has been shown by research to be effective, and how to provide first aid in a crisis situation.

### DISTRICT CROSS-COUNTRY – Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup>

Students who have qualified for this event from today's Rural cross-country will receive individual notes with further information on this event by next Monday.

### BEANIES – Navy & White

The cold weather has arrived! Time for a Bolwarra beanie? \$20, see Nicole in the office.



### RETIREMENT

I have just over 7 weeks to enjoy my time at Bolwarra before retiring. While I am looking forward to this event there are some parts of being Principal I will miss. I will definitely miss the connection that I have thoroughly enjoyed over the years with all the students. The joy I have received from seeing students flourish in many situations will not be replicated in my retirement.

### MOTHER'S DAY STALL – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Students will visit the Mother's Day Stall from 12.30pm onwards (time to be confirmed)

Students will have a large variety of gifts to choose from.

Gifts are priced from 50c - \$7.00

Please send along a carry bag (so children can 'hide' their gift) We do not have any at school.

Any parents (2 or 3) who are available to help on the stall please let Nicole in the office know.



## EXTRA-CURRICULA TERM 2 DATES 2023

<b>May</b>	Friday	5 <sup>th</sup>	-	Division Athletics in Warrnambool
			-	Parent Community 3pm
	Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	-	Resilience Project Parent Presentation
	Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	-	District Cross-Country am
			-	Mother's Day Stall - pm
	Friday	12 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Pupil Free Day</b> –Staff Curriculum day
	Friday	19 <sup>th</sup>	-	Division Cross-Country
			-	Parent Community 3pm
	Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	-	Winter Series
	Friday	26 <sup>th</sup>	-	Parent Community 3pm
<b>June</b>	Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup>	-	Somers Camp starts
	Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	-	Parent Community 3pm
	Friday	9 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>Report Writing Day (Pupil Free Day)</b>
	Monday	12 <sup>th</sup>	-	<b>King's Birthday Holiday</b>
	Friday	16 <sup>th</sup>	-	Parent Community 3pm
	Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	-	<b>Last Day of Term 2</b>

**LEE GIBBONS.....PRINCIPAL**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** Carter Hodgins who turns 7 on Tuesday, and Lily Curran who turns 7 on Wednesday.

**STATEMENTS** are attached to today's newsletter are for Extra-Curricular Items & Activities, these are provided on a 'user-pays' basis.

Voluntary Curriculum Contributions (which are not included in these statements) can also be made, as per Parent Payment Policy, please contact Nicole for amounts and/or more details.

### Fitzroy River Quilters

presents a

### **Mothers' Day Stall**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**10 – 1 pm**

**Uniting Church Hall – 21 Fitzroy Street**

**(corner of Fitzroy and Hunter Streets – Heywood)**

- **Come along to buy something handmade for your mum.**
  - **Enjoy a hot cuppa and freshly baked slice for \$3.**
    - **View members demonstrating their craft**  
(lacemakers, quilters, stitchers, paper craft)

Raffle tickets \$2 or 3 for \$5 –

1<sup>st</sup> prize a quilt; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize Framed Paper Tole Owls

All proceeds support our community projects.



Services  
Australia



## Changes to Child Care Subsidy

From 10 July 2023, there are changes to the way we work out your Child Care Subsidy (CCS) entitlement. Child care will be cheaper for most families.

### What you need to know

- The maximum amount of CCS is increasing from 85% to 90% for families earning up to \$80,000.
- The income limit for CCS is increasing to \$530,000.
- If you earn over \$80,000, your CCS percentage will go down by 1% for each \$5,000 of income your family earns. You'll either get more subsidy or have no change to your entitlement. The CCS percentage you're entitled to depends on your family's income.

For more information about CCS, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/changes-if-you-get-family-payments](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/changes-if-you-get-family-payments)

### Families with more than one child aged 5 or under

From 10 July 2023, if you have more than one child aged 5 or under you can still get a higher rate for one or more of your children.

### If you get Additional Child Care Subsidy

If you get Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) your rates will stay the same.

From 10 July 2023, the low income limit for ACCS Transition to Work (TTW) will increase to \$80,000. Your family will still need to meet other ACCS TTW eligibility requirements.

### What you need to do from January to June 2023

In most cases, you don't need to do anything to get the increased rate. If you get CCS, we'll apply changes to your CCS automatically from 10 July 2023.

### Updating your family income estimate

The amount of CCS you get is calculated using your family income estimate. It's important to make sure that you check your income estimate regularly and update it if your circumstances change.

If you get CCS or if you're already assessed for CCS but get 0%, you may be eligible for an increased rate. Check your family income estimate is up to date so you get the right amount from 10 July 2023.

You can check or update your income estimate at any time using:

- your Centrelink online account through [my.gov.au](https://my.gov.au)
- the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app
- the myGov app.

For more information about how to update your family income estimate, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/familyincomeestimate](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/familyincomeestimate)

## Chaplains' Corner - Another round of school photos!

Well, our week started with school photographs. Always a good day. Everyone looking their best. And the results all part of our story, personally and as a school community. We may see this exercise as just some kind of annual routine. But it is much more. Run ahead a few years, say a decade or two, and those photos become precious. They are filled with memories. Not just the actual event of photo taking but of the faces beaming back at us. We smile as we see ourselves in there with our friends.

Believe it or not I still have the class photo taken when I was in Grade One at Canterbury Primary back around 1950. I can remember some of the names of my fellow students. Decades later I joined the family of one of those students, a cousin of my Judith. And there have been many more school photos since then. And as a teacher I have class photos of my students also from way back. So, we need to value our photos and our memories....

- **Our photos remind us of the value of community** - Each class is just that. A fascinating mix of personalities, backgrounds and cultures drawn together for learning, for play, for growing up with each other. There is a wonderful uniqueness about belonging to a class.
- **And those photos jog our memories** - Back in my day we didn't keep track of who was who so it's pretty hard trying to attach the right names to the right faces. The reality is that we can't keep track of every fellow student as the years roll on. But it's a good move to keep some connections alive.
- **Those old photos carry stories** - Years later at least two of my fellow students, Robyn and Andrew, died in road accidents. Sad. Another has become a well-known doctor, often appearing in TV interviews. But the stories of most are now shrouded. I have simply lost track of them.
- **Some of my students have accomplished much** - One of my PNG students became the first indigenous pilot to fly commercial jets with Air Nuigini. He later flew the Airbus 380 for Emirates, becoming a training pilot in the process. Remarkable. He was just an ordinary kid in class.
- **And time doesn't stand still for any of us** - Recently I connected with another PNG student of mine via FaceBook. He lives in North Carolina; his wife passed away a few years ago; he's now a grandpa. Like all the others of his time, he's seen a lot of water go under the bridge. Joy and sadness.
- **Our photos keep us in touch with both school and family** - Like your family no doubt, we have taken multi hundreds of family photos over the years. Boxes filled with them. Treasured memories. Simple but powerful reminders of how the years have generated so much joy, so many special moments.
- **The reality is we can't keep up with everyone** - Life is too full, too varied to keep tabs on all our friends. Occasionally we will bump into a familiar face, swap notes, then work out the connection of years past. At the very best, it's only a handful of family and friends who remain regularly close.
- **And there's another side to all this too** - Sometimes we do well not to remember, but to forget. Not every relationship is a blessing. Some are anything but. An old photo may remind us not of joy but of pain. A connection that we wished hadn't happened. So, we leave it where it belongs - in the past.

Our photos remind us of the continuing story of our lives, hopefully of the good times, of the people who cared for us, our teachers, our friends, our parents. Now it's our turn to capture special moments for our kids so that, one day, they will check these old photos with fondness and gratitude.

**John** – stay in touch [revsimmo@gmail.com](mailto:revsimmo@gmail.com) - 0428 780 421, **Andreena** - 0428 233 082