



TRAWALLA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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DATES

Mon Feb 8 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Moonambel	Wed Mar 31 st	School Review day 2
Tues Feb 16 th	School Council meeting	Thur April 1 st	Athletics Day @ Llanberris (TBC)
Mon Feb 22 nd	Full STEAM Ahead @ Moonambel	Thurs April 1 st	Last day of term 1
Tues Feb 23 rd	Curriculum Day – no students (TBC)	Mon April 19 th	Term 2 commences
Mon Mar 8 th	Labour Day Holiday	Mon April 26 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Natte Yallock
Mon Mar 15 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Moonambel	Wed April 28 th – 30 th	Cluster Camp to Roses Gap
Mon Mar 29 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Moonambel	Mon May 10 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Natte Yallock
Tues Mar 30 th	School Review day 1	Mon May 24 th	Full STEAM Ahead @ Natte Yallock



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2021

We currently have 7 students. Miss H is teaching the prep/one class each day. Kate Morcombe is teaching year 2-6 on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Kate will have Tuesdays in the office and Miss H will teach the whole school. Education Support staff are Megan Bourke and Kelly Westlake. Megan works full time and Kelly is here for 3 hours every morning. Ken Ikeda and Peta Ikeda are sharing the teaching of Japanese via video conference to schools in Victoria, NSW and the ACT. Ken works Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Peta is here on Tuesdays. Jodie Jantzen is our Business Manager. Jodie works in the school office on Tuesdays. The school newsletter is sent home every Tuesday with the eldest child in the family. Families interested in receiving the newsletter via email please email the school on trawalla.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au with newsletter as the subject. The weekly newsletters are also available on the school website www.trawallaprimary.com

PE will be every day for 30 minutes. The afternoon lessons will include personal learning, kitchen garden, science, Japanese and art. The Mobile Area Resource Centre (MARC van) visits fortnightly providing an opportunity for students to borrow library books to take home. Kathy Norton is the teacher and delivers lessons based around history and geography.

Code Red School Closures

Trawalla School has been identified as a school at high grassfire risk. Trawalla School will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is declared. I have attached article outlining what schools and families are to do if a Code Red day is declared.

School Council

Our first School Council meeting for 2021 will be on Tuesday, February 16th, 2021 at 7pm

MARC Van

Kathy's first visit to Trawalla for 2021 is Friday February 12th. Students are asked to bring a sturdy plastic bag to carry home library books.

Scholastic Book Club

Issue one catalogues are attached. Orders are due back by Friday 12th February.

School Fees

All students have been issued with stationery, books and computer subscriptions for 2021. The cost to families is \$80 per child. Attached is the itemised document which outlines the charges and method of payment. Families are asked to pay these costs by March 19th, 2021.

HATS

Congratulations to all the students who remembered to bring and wear hats on the first day. As we are a Sun Smart School hats are to be worn at all times during Term 1.

Diaries

Diaries are to be used as a means of communication between home and school. Teachers check diaries each morning for notes from home. Parents are invited to comment daily about their child. For example, 'Gerry is a bit tired this morning, he didn't sleep very well' or 'Gerry is in for a great day!' Teachers enjoy hearing from home and knowing that parents have taken the time to check the diary and helped their child with their homework and reading.

****Diaries did not arrive today so the students will be issued with them when they arrive, hopefully tomorrow*****

Full STEAM Ahead

This year our small school is excited to continue working with the five other Pyrenees Cluster schools for **Full STEAM Ahead**. Students will be provided with a wide variety of learning opportunities in the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Mathematics. Each term will have a different venue. This term we are travelling by bus to Moonambel and in Term 2 the cluster schools will meet at Natte Yallock.

Permission forms will go home on next week's newsletter. Students will need to bring a hat, water, lunch and snacks. The bus will leave at 8.30am and return by 3.30pm.

COVID safe School reminders:

- Students to arrive after 8.55am.
- Parents to drop off and pick up from front gate.
- Visitors are to limit their time on the school grounds and use sanitiser in front corridor.
- Ensure physical distancing (1.5m)
- Face masks are recommended for use by staff and visitors when 1.5m physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Bus travel is unaffected.
- Unwell students are to stay home. Students will be sent home if they become unwell at school.

Practise good hygiene

- All staff, students and visitors to schools should undertake regular hand hygiene, particularly on arrival to school, before and after eating, after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing or using the toilet.
- Sharing of food should not occur.
- Use non-contact greetings (not shaking hands, hugging or kissing).
- Ensure the highest hygiene practices amongst food handlers where these services are operating, as per the Department's Safe Food Handling Guidance.

For more information:

- visit the Victorian Government website Coronavirus (COVID-19) roadmap to reopening
- visit the DHHS website frequently asked questions
- call the DET coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline on 1800 338 663. This is available 8am to 6pm seven days a week.

Dental check at Cluster Day

East Grampians Health Services Mobile Dental Service is coming to the Cluster Day at Moonambel on March 15th. This provides free dental check ups and follow up work for all students. I have attached the consent form to access this service. Completed consent forms are to be returned to school by Friday March 5th.

Schools on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and Schools at Risk of Grassfire (Category 4)

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at risk of grassfire (Category 4) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire or grassfire risk.**



Where possible, we will provide parents with 24 hours notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter, Facebook and SMS message. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- All bus routes that travel through the Code Red area will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website www.trawallaprimary.com and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.

- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

