

ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL



Newsletter No. 2014/01
Thursday, 6 February 2014
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Dear Parents and Members of St Pat's School Community,

We have had a fantastic start to the 2014 school year. Our students have arrived at school full of enthusiasm and ready to learn. Our teachers are looking forward to their new classes and I'm really excited by the year ahead.

New Students

We welcome seven new Prep students, and their families, to the school. Harmony, Izaak, Hanna, Mia, Kamsi, Jobe and Tamzyn have settled into the daily routine well and our older students are to be commended on the way they are caring for these students. We look forward to watching them enthusiastically embracing the opportunities provided.

Fruit for Fruit Break

Each morning at 10 am the students will stop for fruit break. I mention this again as some students appear to have only one piece of fruit in their lunch boxes which they eat at 10am and then don't have anything else to eat at recess. Could families please ensure that all children have sufficient food in their lunch boxes for a busy day at school. More is always better until you gain an understanding of how much food they will eat during a typical day.

Hats

A reminder that all students are required to wear broad brimmed hats when they are outside during Terms 1 and 4. Students who don't have a hat will be restricted to the outdoor lunch area during lunch and recess. Hats can be purchased from Cambrelle's in Victoria Street Nhill and in the event that there is a delay in purchasing a uniform hat we will accept a suitable broad brimmed hat from home so that students can still play with their friends outside during recess and lunch time.

Lunch Orders

Don't forget that Friday (tomorrow) is lunch order day. An Oliver's menu was attached to last week's Welcome letter but if you've misplaced it please check the website or contact the office for another copy of the menu.

Attendance / Absence Notes

Just a reminder that if your child is away from school a note to the office explaining the reason for the absence is required on the first day your child returns to school. Please check the website for a proforma to use if necessary and there is also a copy of the proforma attached to this newsletter.

Reminder re Prep Attendance

Students in Prep are not required at school on Wednesdays until after the Labour Day long weekend in March. This means that they will not attend on Wednesday 13, 20 and 27 February and 5 March.

Timetable / Specialist Classes

This year all students will study Mandarin Chinese which will be provided by Chinese teachers from Beijing. Students will also have weekly Physical

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Th	13	Welcome Evening 6:30pm
Su	23	School Mass 9am, morning tea (please bring a plate to share)
Tu	25	PAC Meeting 7:30pm
Fr	28	EMA Applications Due

MARCH

Mo	10	Labour Day Public Holiday
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APRIL

Fr	4	Last Day Term 1
Mo	21	Easter Monday
Tu	22	First Day Term 2
Fr	25	ANZAC Day Public Holiday

2014 TERM DATES

Term 1	28 January to 4 April
Term 2	22 April to 27 June
Term 3	14 July to 19 September
Term 4	6 October to 19 December

CLASS TIMES

9am	Class time
11am	Recess
11:30am	Class time
1:00pm	Lunch
1:45pm	Class time
3:15pm	Dismissal

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOURS

Monday	Closed
Tuesday—Thursday	9am—3:30pm
Friday	10am—1pm

ATTACHED

- EMA
- GWMWater Dripping Details
- Absent Note proforma
- BookClub (orders due Thursday, 13 February)
- **Return to school**
 - Welcome Evening note
 - Local excursions permission note
 - Head Lice consent form

St. Patrick's Church
Sunday, 9 February —Mass at 9am



What can parents and carers do to help their child's asthma at school?

- If your child is self-managing their asthma, or capable of taking their asthma medication independently, ensure that your child is always carrying their reliever medication (*e.g. Ventolin, Asmol, Airomir and Bricanyl*) as well as a spacer while at school.
- Ensure that you have provided your child's school/preschool with an updated Asthma Action Plan.
- Ensure that your child knows how to recognise early symptoms of an asthma attack and check to make sure they are using their reliever medication properly.
- Ensure your child will seek help from school/preschool staff if they experience asthma symptoms.
- Ensure that your child's asthma is being well managed and that their medication and management is reviewed annually by your GP (this is a good opportunity to also update the Asthma Action Plan required by your child's school/preschool).

Respiratory experts talk to parents about asthma

Ever wondered what the experts would say about a cure for asthma? Or how to get your teenager to take their medication?

If you want to find out the answers to some of the most **frequently asked questions about children and asthma**, watch The Asthma Foundation's new video series – available from <http://forum.asthma.org.au/>



For more information, please contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462 or www.asthma.org.au



to
Tasha and James
who celebrated their
birthdays in January

Education, Art/Technology and Library lessons. These specialist classes are scheduled on the following days for Term 1.

MONDAY	Library – Senior class
TUESDAY	Chinese – Junior class Physical Education – Whole school
WEDNESDAY	Chinese – Senior class Library – Junior class
FRIDAY	Art / Technology – Whole school

Arrival Time

Many thanks to all families in relation to the requested arrival time for students. Staff appreciate the opportunity to complete their preparation for classes before students arrive at 8.40am.

Parent Advisory Committee

The initial meeting of the PAC has been rescheduled to Tuesday 25 February at 7:30pm in the meeting room of the hall. The change of date was necessary because I have to attend a Principal's Induction in Ballarat over three days which is scheduled at the same time as our original date.

Welcome Function

Please find attached to this newsletter an invitation to our whole school Welcome Function which is to be held on Thursday 13 February from 6:30pm. Cold meat will be provided but families are asked to bring a salad and a dessert to share. Families will also need to provide drinks for members of their family. This is a great opportunity for families to get together in a relaxed atmosphere with a particular focus on welcoming our new Prep families to our school community. Please return the RSVP by next Tuesday for catering purposes.

Kathryn Bendall

Bus Travellers

It is most important that parents provide a note (or telephone the school office) if your child is not travelling home on the bus as per normal, or if travel arrangements change in any way. The school and the bus drivers have a duty of care for the safety of our students, and we need to be fully informed of all changes to travel arrangements.

Education Maintenance Allowance

Please refer to the attached information page. Call at the school office to complete an EMA Application Form, and provide a copy of your valid Health Care Card or Pension Card. Parent applications are due before **28 February**.

Active After School Care

This term the students have the opportunity to have swimming lessons on Monday or Tuesday with Emma McInnes starting this Monday 3rd and 4th February running until the pool closes on the 11th March. Mondays lessons will cater for students in Years 4 to 6 with a limit of 20 students. Tuesday lessons will cater for Years Prep to 3 also with a limit of 20 students. If you would like your child to participate and you will need to contact the Nhill Lutheran School as soon as possible on 53912144.

BookClub orders are due back at school by Thursday, 13 February.

Head Lice (pediculosis)

Attached is a consent form for parents to sign and return to the office as soon as possible. This form is in line with school policy (which you can read on the school's website).

eNewsletter

Please contact the school office if you would like to receive the newsletter by email (send an email to krintoule@sphill.catholic.edu.au). An electronic version is available on the school website, this is updated weekly.