



# We are a resilient, respectful community of learners.

**THINK Excellence THINK Respect THINK Resilience THINK Community**

## NEWSLETTER – 30 January 2020

**MOSSFIEL SCHOOL LEADERS**

<b>ACTING PRINCIPAL</b>	Simon McGlade		
<b>ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	Dennis Osborne	<b>ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL</b>	Andrew Morrison
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Foundations</b>	Carmen Morrison	<b>INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Years 1 &amp; 2</b>	Craig O'Donnell
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Years 3 &amp; 4</b>	Heather Clift	<b>INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER - Years 5 &amp; 6</b>	Peter Cashin
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER – Literacy, Numeracy and Assessment</b>	Diane Delapa		

**MOSSFIEL SCHOOL COUNCILLORS**

Catriona MacLeod – President	Loren Hewitt – Vice President	Jo Brown - Secretary	Dennis Osborne - Treasurer
Lauren Wellsted – Asst Treasurer	Linda Spencer – Minute Sec	Maureen Price – Exec Officer	
Emma Bartlett	Chloe Bell	Jane Churchland	Mark Clarke
Jody Phillips	Acalia Ryan	Jacqueline Drew	Louise Price

**DIARY DATES**

Wed	12 Feb		Swimming Trials for Year 3-6
<b>Mon</b>	<b>9 March</b>		<b>Labour Day – NO SCHOOL</b>
Tue	10 March		Easter Raffle Tickets home
Tue	24 March		BBQ
<b>Friday</b>	<b>27 March</b>		<b>End of Term 1 – 2:30pm finish</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>14 April</b>		<b>Start of Term 2</b>

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Dear Parents and Friends,

Prior to introducing myself, allow me to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which our school is built, the Kulin Nation, and pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging, and to any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people in our community.

It is an absolute pleasure to join the community of Mossfiel Primary School. Having only been at the school for the past few days, it is clear that all of the staff here have your children's best interests at heart, and collectively are a very knowledgeable and dedicated staff. It has been very exciting to hear the conversations amongst the staff as they prepare lessons for students, discuss the personal needs of students and work collectively to support each other, to in turn, support you and your children.

Thank you to those parents whom I met on book collection day and this morning who made me feel so welcome. It was a delight to meet you and I look forward to developing some strong relationships, in particular with those parents on school council. Whilst I am getting to know you, if there are parents who would like to have a discussion regarding their child they are more than welcome to come and have a conversation with me, or one of the highly experienced assistant principals or leadership staff.

As for me, I have spent my entire career, spanning some 25 years, working in Melbourne's west with time spent at the former Laverton Primary School, Bellbridge Primary School, The Grange P-12 College and for eight years at Newport Gardens Primary School as principal. I have a strong interest in providing students a voice in both the direction of their learning and school, as well as enhancing community engagement, wellbeing and welfare. I have two children of my own, I love watching cricket, I barrack for the Bulldogs and I enjoy the outdoors. I look forward to meeting you all as the term passes and will be a regular in the yard before and after school so please pop by and say hi.

Staff also new to Mossfiel Primary School this year include Mr Watkins in grade 5/6 and Mr Anderson in grade 3/4. If the welcome I have received is any indication, I'm sure these staff members will be made to feel very welcome indeed by all in our community.

And now for some reminders:

Novel coronavirus – Parents will have received a fact sheet for students and children regarding the Novel Coronavirus via Compass already. This information is also included in this newsletter. Please take the

time to read over the fact sheet, especially if you have travelled overseas recently. If you or your child develop the symptoms listed please contact your GP as a priority. To ensure we at school are doing what we can, we have placed hygiene posters in all classrooms and have ensured hand sanitisers are in all rooms. Please remind your children to wash their hands after going to the toilet and to make use of the hand sanitiser where appropriate.

Mobile phones – You may have heard last year that the Minister for Education introduced a policy banning students from using mobile phones at school. As such, we ask that students do not bring mobile phones unless absolutely necessary, and if they do require a phone these need to be handed to the classroom teacher at the beginning of the day where they will be securely housed and be returned at the end of the day.

Curriculum day – On Friday February 14<sup>th</sup> students will not be required at school as the staff will be undertaking a day of professional learning. On this day two consultants, one for English and one for Mathematics, will be working with the staff to further develop their already strong skills in the teaching of these two important curriculum areas. Please be sure to mark this date in your diary and enjoy a Happy Valentine's on that day.

Hats – Today's weather is a stark reminder of the importance of students wearing hats each and every day of term one and four. If your child does not have a school hat, please purchase one from the uniform shop as soon as possible. Students who do not have a school hat on will not be able to play at either recess or lunchtime. This rule is for your child's safety, and as such I thank you for your cooperation on this very important SunSmart strategy.

Assembly – With the newsletter out this week, that signals a reminder for assembly next Friday during the last 30 minutes of the day. It would be wonderful to see as many parents as possible come along.

At this, the end of my first newsletter here at Mossfiel Primary School, can I please say a big thank you to all of the staff for getting the year off to such a smooth start? This doesn't happen by accident, it occurs due to the hard work and dedication of staff and through the careful planning which I have seen occur throughout the school.

*Regards*  
*Simon McGlade*  
*Acting Principal*

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION-**

### **Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy & Allergy Update**

For families that have children with Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy or Allergies please remember to check your child's medication ensuring that it is clearly labelled and in date in readiness for the start of the school year. Plans and medication must be handed to the office to be kept in sickbay. For all Foundation and new students, if your child has a Dr provided medical plan a coloured copy must be given to the office. If they require a Ventolin you must provide this including a spacer and clearly label both.

In order to streamline this process, we are calling for your support in assisting us with the updating of Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy and Allergies action plans. The new initiative to streamline our processes in keeping our students safe we are asking all relevant families to provide updated plans to the school by the end of February. We understand that some plans may not expire until later in the year, however we would appreciate your cooperation in updating your child's plan **ASAP** (regardless of its current expiry date) and return to the school by February 28<sup>th</sup>. This will assist our First Aide Team in having one annual review date and knowing that we have the best and most accurate information to support you child throughout the year in this area.

Please note it is your responsibility to make sure your child's plan/medication is current and in date to ensure the health and well-being of your child. We appreciate your support in updating your child's plan now therefore you will not need to update again until 2021.

Thanking you in advance  
First Aid Team

## **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**

The following people won our Christmas raffle at the end of last year:

1. Fatema
2. Jayden 0V
3. Your Heh Tha
4. Paul 3/4S
5. Lucas 1/2D

**The winners of our prepaid Books & Requisites are** Isabella (1/2F) and Lucas (0H). They both win a \$100.00 credit to be spent on school excursions and bbqs etc.

# Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

## Factsheet for school students and children

### Last updated 29 January 2020

An outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was detected in Wuhan, China in late December 2019. Cases have been reported predominantly in the city of Wuhan, in the Hubei province of China, as well as some other Chinese cities and countries, including two confirmed cases in Victoria, Australia.

### What is this virus?

Coronaviruses can make humans and animals sick. Some coronaviruses can cause illness similar to the common cold and others can cause more serious diseases, including Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

The virus seen in Hubei Province, China is called 'novel' because it is new. It has not been detected before this outbreak. Most people infected live in, or travelled to, Hubei Province, China. There have been cases of 2019-nCoV reported in other Chinese provinces and other countries. It is likely that the virus originally came from an animal, and there is now evidence that it can spread from person-to-person.

### What are the symptoms?

Symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, or shortness of breath. Symptoms can take up to 14 days to develop.

### What if my child is well, and returning to school after being in Hubei province, China or other countries with cases in the last 14 days?

**All students and staff members who have travelled to Hubei Province, China, are advised to stay at home and avoid public settings, including attendance at schools and early learning centres, until 14 days after last being in Hubei province, China.**

Children and staff who are well and have travelled to other provinces in China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases, are NOT recommended to be excluded from schools and child care services unless the following applies:

- The person is a confirmed case of novel coronavirus
- The person is a close contact with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus in the past 14 days

### What if my child feels sick now or within 14 days of being in Hubei Province, China or another part of China?

- If your child has a cough, sore throat or shortness of breath, they must be excluded from school and be reviewed by a doctor.
- Seek medical attention but first place a mask on the student if you have one and call the doctor or hospital before you attend. Tell them your child has been in Hubei province, China, or the location of travel within China.
- When you get to the hospital or doctor's clinic, tell them where your child has travelled in China and whether this included Hubei Province. Ensure a mask is placed on your child before or as soon as you arrive at the medical facility.

If your child has severe symptoms, such as shortness of breath:

- Call 000 and request an ambulance, and
- Inform the paramedics where your child has been in China.