



WHAT'S ON Dates to Note

Monday, 15th February
Year 1 Mrs Sargood Incurion

Tuesday, 16th February
Year 4-6 Swimming Carnival

Friday, 26th February
District Swimming Carnival

Thursday, 4th March
Family Picnic

Friday, 5th March
Curriculum Day (student free)

School Council Dates

Tuesday, 16th February

Tuesday, 16th March
AGM

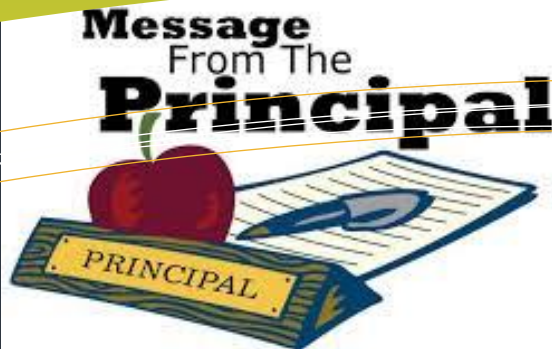
Term Dates

Term 1
28th January – 1st April

Term 2
19th April – 25th June

Term 3
12th July – 17th September

Term 4
4th October – 17th December



From the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the 2021 school year at Red Hill Consolidated School. I hope that you all managed some time off and enjoyed the summer break with your little ones. I would like to warmly welcome to Red Hill Consolidated School to all of our new families. After the disruptions caused by COVID-19, we are all looking forward to a much more normal 2021. Having said that, there are still a number of measures in place to reduce the risk of transmission. These have been communicated to all families in an email sent earlier this week. I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and support with these measures.

Mr Jarman

This week we sadly farewell our gentle, caring, creative and beautiful art teacher, Mr Jarman who passed away unexpectedly over the holidays. This is such a loss for our community and I know just how much Ian meant to our staff, students and many of our parents. Thank you so much to all of those families who sent in cards, flowers, artwork and condolences. Funeral details have been emailed to all families. This week, we have been supported by the Student Support Services Team who provided briefings and counselling for staff and students

this issue

Principal's Report **P.1-3**

Wellbeing News **P.4**

Administration **P.5**

TheirCare **P.6**

Please keep an eye on your child over the coming weeks as they process this news and work through their grief and contact the school if you believe they require additional support.



Hats

A friendly reminder that all students must have a broad brimmed hat when outdoors in Term 1 and 4. We do expect all students to have a hat from day 1. We also encourage children to apply sun screen before school and to have a water bottle on their desk at all times.

Welcome to our new staff

I would like to introduce and welcome our new faces for 2021 and there are quite a few. The classroom teachers joining our wonderful staff are:



Bethany Leach
Grade 2



Georgina Walker
Music & Performing Arts



Liam Gillick
Grade 4



Merrilee Christoforou
Grade 3



Shayna de Geus
Prep



Tim Drummond
Grade 5



Kate Butler
Art



Emma Diamond
First Aid

I would also like to welcome Billie Ruckwood, who will be working with Mr Milenkovic in the pool and welcome back Maddy Darling and Lucy Welsh from family leave. Jackie Fox Pollard has returned to our administration team.

Outside School Hours School Care

As you may know, Their Care are our new outside school hours care providers for 2021. If you need to utilise this service, registration and booking information can be found at <https://theircare.com.au/> or by calling 1300 072 410. It is recommended that all children are registered to use before and after school care in the case of an emergency. There is no charge to register for this service.

Bushfire At Risk Register

As you may know, Red Hill Consolidated School is a Code Red School, identified as being at a higher risk of bushfire. As a Code Red School, we are required to take a number of precautions, undertake training and drills, as well as close the school on Code Red days. An information sheet regarding Code Red days has been included in this newsletter. Please also ensure we have up to date information regarding any medical conditions your child may suffer from. The smoke haze from bushfires as well as thunderstorms typical at this time of the year can be a trigger for asthma. If this is the case for your child, please let us know.

Swimming

Our Swimming Program will begin in week 3. Your child's classroom teacher will communicate the day and time of your child's swimming session and also information about volunteering. This year we do require all families to complete and return a consent form to take part in our swimming program. This is a requirement of the Department. This form will be sent home this week. Please ensure it is returned promptly so your child can participate in the swimming program.

Privacy Policy

As we begin the new school year I must remind you of our school's privacy policy. Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy. A copy of this may be found <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx> . Collection of Information Statement Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website at <https://redhillcs.vic.edu.au/policies/> For more information about privacy please visit <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/Schools-Privacy-Policy-information-for-parents.aspx>

Mobile Phone Policy

While we're on the topic of policies, please ensure you and your children are aware of the state-wide policy for mobile phones at school. If your child must have a mobile phone at school, it will need to be switched off and stored securely during school hours. Our classes from 4 to 6 have been provided with lockable storage for mobile phones. If you have a child in a younger year level who requires a mobile phone at school, please contact the office and we will arrange secure storage for your child's device. We ask that all children sign their devices in and out and for any bus travellers to keep mobile phones in their school bag. Please also ensure your child disables any smart functions on watches if they are wearing them at school.

2021 Bus Travellers

A number of bus travellers are yet to return their application for 2021. Please note that it is a requirement of travel that these forms are completed annually. If you require another copy of the application, please let me know. We also ask that you keep us up to date with your child's afternoon travel arrangements and avoid last minute changes. This will ensure buses can depart the school on time and stick to their schedule.

ClassDojo

Over the coming days your child's classroom teacher will set up their classes on ClassDojo. We will continue to use this platform to communicate school news, student work and special events. We encourage all families to download the ClassDojo App and keep an eye on the school and class stories.

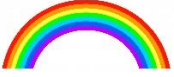
Bird Aviary



Finally this week I would like to thank the team of volunteers from the Mornington Peninsula Avicultural Society who spent last Saturday giving our bird aviary a much needed makeover. The whole aviary was completely cleaned out, repaired and resurfaced, ready for the return of our feathered friends. More birds will be released in to our aviary in the coming weeks. Be sure to check it out next time you are up at school. A number of other small projects were completed over the holidays with some bigger ones on the cards for 2021. Watch this space.

Have a wonderful week.

Be kind, be grateful and be mindful! - Gus Wettenhall



Red Hill Consolidated School Wellbeing News



Dearest Red Hill Consolidated School Community,

Welcome back to school for 2021!

With the start of school year there is a great amount of excitement about the new class, the new teacher and the friends they will make. Mixed in with this, there can also be some anxiety or worry about their new schooling year. Following are a few suggestions that may help settle and reassure your child as they take this next brave step:

- Make sure your child knows the school drop-off arrangement and pick up/bus arrangements. This is also really important at our school to avoid bus issues at the end of the day. If your child needs to complete a bus note, they must do this during recess or lunch.
- Help/Ask you child to organise their clothes, hat, shoes and socks the night before- this may also include their lunch for the next day.
- During Terms 1 and 4, please ensure your child is wearing sunscreen and has their hat for school.
- Have a copy of their timetabled activities handy for swimming days and library borrowing times.
- Talk to your child's classroom teacher should you have any concerns

There are many wonderful upcoming events to look forward to this year. Our Student Voice Team will begin very soon, with student representatives from Grade 3 – 6 meeting weekly to represent their class. There will also be lunchtime clubs, swimming carnivals and other activities throughout the term.

Helping with Grief and Loss

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our wonderful art teacher Mr Ian Jarman, who will be missed by so many. If you find your child has been having difficulty or experiencing great sadness as they come to terms with this loss, please contact me or your classroom teacher by email or phone.

The websites listed below also have some ideas about how your child may react to loss and how their behaviour may change as they grieve.

www.kidshelpline.com.au

www.beyondblue.com.au

www.families.org.au

Kindest regards,

Louise Kusel





Admin Advice

Please be advised that changes to bus travel are to be made using the dedicated bus line. This can only be done on the day the changes are to occur and must be communicated before 2:30pm. Please **do not** send emails regarding bus changes.

If you are collecting your child early, please give yourself adequate time to do so. You will need to visit the office to have your child signed out. The administration staff will give you a slip which you will then need to present to your child's classroom teacher.

Presently BPAY or Credit Card are the most practical methods of payment due to Covid. It is our preference **NO** cash payments are sent to the office.

2021 CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or

non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
 - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
- b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
- c) Submit an application to the school by **Friday 12th February**.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27th January 2021) or term two (19th April 2021).

HOW TO APPLY

Today your child will receive an application form. If you applied for the CSEF at Red Hill Consolidated School in 2020, you do not need to complete an application form in 2021 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments**; your child has started or changed schools in 2021 or you did not apply in 2020.
- **changed family circumstances**; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or **new siblings commencing at the school in 2021**.

Please check with the school office if you are unsure 5989 2321.



Dear Red Hill Parents and Community

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to TheirCare as the provider for both Before and After School Care. Our operating hours are 6:30am to 8:45am for before school care and 3:30pm to 6:30pm for after school care. We provide an adventurous and stimulating program in a safe environment for all children. During sessions children develop life skills, friendships, confidence, and creativity through play.

It is with great pleasure that we also welcome our new Program Coordinator, Courtney Matulis, to the Red Hill Service. Courtney has had over 10 years of OSHC experience and is super excited to meet you and welcome you to the program. Feel free to pop down and meet Courtney and say hello.

We are currently open for both permanent and casual bookings for both sessions, to register or book please visit our website: www.theircare.com.au, you can always contact our program's mobile on **0419 205 469**. Your service coordinator Courtney will be available during session times to take any calls regarding care. TheirCare support is available during office hours if required on 1300 072 410.

We are looking forward to seeing you in care soon.

Take Care



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