

The Slate

Hello!

The pandemic has continued to challenge our resilience this term with three separate lockdowns. In spite of the tumultuous times we have all been living through, our little people are so adaptable; it's quite amazing sometimes witnessing their enthusiasm and positivity. We know it's not easy, but a break is not far away and then hopefully term four can be a fresh start (fingers crossed for on-site learning again).

On that note, I must say thank-you for the opportunity to work as part of your community this term. A special 'shout out' to the staff who over the term have been supportive in orientating me to the school, but more importantly, for going above and beyond to enable learning continuity for our students.

Enjoy your holidays everyone.

-Louise Kilgour

NAPLAN results

The 2021 NAPLAN results were mailed to schools last week and have been distributed to families.

It is comforting know that the Minister for Education and Youth Alan Tudge said the headline results were pleasing but further analysis of the detailed data was needed, as part of a broader look at the impacts of COVID-19 on Australian students. "It is certainly a relief that we have not yet seen the significant declines that we may have expected due to school closures, particularly in Victoria," Minister Tudge said. "The results also show a resilience among young Australians and they are testament to the hard work of teachers and parents who are supporting learning at home".

Congratulations Book Week Colour-In Winners

A big congratulations to Juni and Will for their winning entries to our Book Week colouring competition. When the next Book Club catalogue comes out, the school will purchase you a book Of your choice as prize. Well done to all our entrants.

End of Term Early Dismissal

For students on-site, don't forget that next Friday is the last Day of term with early dismissal at 2:30pm.

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FOR YOUR DIARIES

Term Dates 2021

Term 1: 27 Jan – 1 Apr
Term 2: 19 Apr – 25 Jun
Term 3: 12 Jul – 17 Sep
Term 4: 4 Oct – 17 Dec

School Council Meeting

Tuesday 12 October @
5.30pm

Curriculum Day

Monday 1 November

Melbourne Cup Holiday

Tuesday 2 November

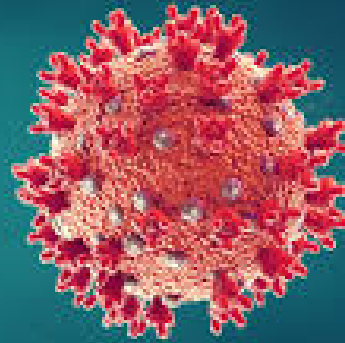


Enrolments for 2022 are open and we already have a handful of Foundation students enrolled which is very exciting!

Unfortunately, school tours are unable to be conducted on-site at this time, but we are keen to answer questions and tell you all about our great little school.

We are beginning to forecast our enrolment for the next year to make tentative plans for 2022, so if you know of anyone that is thinking of enrolling, please tell them to give us a call 😊

COVID Supports



There are a number of supports available to families and the public in general. We have compiled some that we are aware of below.

- Melbourne University are presenting a free online panel discussion titled: Tips to help families cope during Lockdowns, on August 30, 8pm to 9pm.

This webinar is for parents and carers and their families, and professionals working with families who are keen to learn more about how to handle mental health challenges, wellbeing and motivation in these challenging times. There will be a chance for audience questions at the end of the discussion. The panel includes a range of adolescent and community health experts and parents.

See more at: [Events / Tips to help families cope during lockdowns \(unimelb.edu.au\)](https://www.unimelb.edu.au/events/tips-to-help-families-cope-during-lockdowns)

Mental health services and supports available during COVID-19

- **HeadtoHelp** is for Victorians of all ages who want to take the first steps towards finding the mental health and wellbeing support that's best for them.
- **Life in Mind** has established a [webpage](#) with a list of mental health resources dedicated to mental health supports during COVID-19.
- The **Federal Government** maintains the [Head to Health website](#) which was developed by people with lived experience, and contains updated info on COVID-19 while acting as a portal for digital mental health resources.
- [Targeted information and mental health supports for specific groups](#)
- The **Department of Health** has specific [information for people with disabilities](#) and a **COVID-19 Disability Information Hotline** is also available on **1800 643 787**.
- The **National LGBTI Health Alliance** has a [central resource](#) for diverse *LGBTI* community members.
- **Eating Disorders Victoria** has [information](#) for people effected by *eating disorders* in relation to COVID-19.
- **Emerging Minds** has [resources](#) to assist *parents and carers* to have healthy conversations with children about COVID-19.
- **SBS** has COVID-19 health and mental health information in [languages other than English](#).
- **ReachOut** have a [webpage](#) with mental health resources for *young people*.
- [Tips and advice to support better mental health during COVID-19](#)
- The **Australian Psychological Society** has an [information sheet](#) on how to cope with anxiety at this time.
- The **Black Dog Institute** has a range of [resources](#) for anxiety, stress and wellbeing related to COVID-19.
- **Beyond Blue** has put together these [tips](#) to look after your mental health during the outbreak.
- **RUOK?** has [tips](#) about looking out for family members or friends who are struggling.
- **Phoenix Australia** has [tips](#) for caring for yourself and your family.
- The **National Mental Health Commission** is inviting everyone to join in the national conversation with the hashtag [#InThisTogether](#) – share practical tips online to support the mental health and wellbeing of Australians during COVID-19.