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WELCOME BACK!

Today was a fabulous and very warm first day of the school year for our students in years 1 – 6. It was fantastic to see all of our returning staff, students and families after the long holiday break. We have welcomed many new students and families to our school this year in all year levels. All students were settled and eager to learn in their new classes. Congratulations to all of the classroom teachers who are well planned and ready to begin building strong and positive relationships with all of the students in their classes.

Over the holiday break we have had some significant work completed to improve our school grounds. The Foundation playground upgrade has been completed and looks absolutely amazing. The oval area has been fenced and a new path to access the oval installed. This means that our students no longer need to leave the school grounds to access the oval. The oval will also have a the drinking tap reinstalled for student use when playing on the oval, this has been the number one fundraising item for our students over the past few years. Finally we have installed a new flat and turfed play space that will have soccer goals installed next week. All of the works have been completed with a combination of grants to the school, family and student fundraising.



I have attached information regarding the **Novel coronavirus** that has been sent to school for all families information. The most important thing at this stage at school is ensuring that children who have the following symptoms do not attend school. If your child has any of the following symptoms please seek medical advice and keep them at home;

- fever
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath

In school, as well as at home, practising good hygiene is the best defence. Teachers will remind students of the following and encourage them to;

- wash hands often with soap and water
- cough and sneeze into their elbow

The Education Department has banned all student **mobile phones** in schools. This policy is in place now. If your child has a mobile phone they will need to hand it in at the office each morning before 8.45am and pick it up again after 3.15pm. All phones will be individually labelled and placed in secure storage for the school day. I have attached the full Mobile Phone Policy to the newsletter for your information.

SCHOOL TIMES

- Each morning the **gates open at 8.30am**. Staff are on Yard Duty at 8.30am until the bells ring at 8.45am. If students are on site before 8.30am they should be enrolled in Before and After School Care.
- **Classrooms open at 8.35am** each day in readiness for a prompt start to the first session at 8.45am.
- Each afternoon the **gates close at 3.30pm**. Staff are on Yard Duty from 3.15 to 3.30pm.
- Our normal daily timetable;
 - ✓ 8.30am gates open
 - ✓ 8.35am classrooms open
 - ✓ 8.45am morning session begins
 - ✓ 10.25am morning recess
 - ✓ 10.55am middle session begins
 - ✓ 12.35pm lunch eating in classrooms
 - ✓ 12.45pm lunch recess
 - ✓ 1.35pm afternoon session begins
 - ✓ 3.15pm end of school day
 - ✓ 3.30pm gates close
- We call a **Hot Day Timetable** when the temperature in Wallan is forecast to be 35c or higher. A Hot Day Timetable reverses the yard breaks for students so that the long break (50 minutes) is in the morning.
- We call a **Wet Day Timetable** when it is raining during timetabled yard times, sometimes they are called during the break if it starts raining. During a Wet Day Timetable students are supervised in their classrooms for quiet play and indoor game activities.
- The **school office** is open from 8.00am to 4.30pm daily.
- The uniform shop is open on **Tuesday afternoon** (2.30pm – 4.30pm) and **Thursday morning** (8.30am – 10.30am).

We are a SunSmart school.

ALL STUDENTS NEED A HAT

Does your child have one?