

Values: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful & Be a Learner

From the Principal's desk ...

Welcome to the 2023 school year

Hello and welcome to a new school year to all students, staff and families. An extra special welcome to our new families, we hope that you enjoy being a part of the Murchison Primary School community.

Our start to the new school year has been very positive with students arriving ready to learn. Our staff have spent a lot of time at school over the break to ensure our classrooms are set up and planning for 2023 was underway. The Murchison Primary School Staffing Profile for 2023 is as follows:

Foundation-Year 1 Elly French & Lee-Anne Wheeler

Year 1/2 – Shanae Baldwin

Year 3/4 - Narelle Wood & Felicity Watson

Year 5/6 – Kellie Cox & Karen Vraca

Art - Karen Vraca

Music - Nicole Thorne

Education Support – Sharon Reilly & Jo Sanderson

MASK – Sharon Reilly & Hailey Wilson

Business Manager- Shelly McCormick

Principal – Karen Goodwin

2023 Student Leaders

Congratulations to the following students who have gained the honour of leadership positions at our school. I am sure they will be outstanding representatives both within our school and the wider community.

School Captains:

Sadie Harrap & Grace Morgan

House Captains:

Goulburn – Lily Balfour & Hailey Gell

Waranga – Charlotte Robinson & Micah Syrett

Code Red

Murchison Primary School has been identified as a Grassfire At Risk Site. This means that on Code Red days the school will be shut. No students or staff are to attend the site on Code Red Days. Parents will be notified via Skool Loop or a phone call should this occur.

Serious Nut Allergy

We have a student who has been diagnosed with Anaphylaxis caused by an allergy to some types of nuts. Anaphylaxis is a serious condition which can lead to swelling of the eyes, face and airways. Staff update their Anaphylaxis training every 6 months to keep informed of the signs and symptoms and treatment procedure (administration of an EpiPen injection). We ask all families to consider this when packing the following products or anything containing traces of these products in their child/ren's school lunches and snacks. **Macadamia nuts, Peanuts, Pecans or Walnuts.** All other nuts and seeds are fine to have at school. Your assistance with this is very much appreciated.

School Times & Road Safety

School begins at 8:45am each day. For working parents or those who would enjoy breakfast we offer our Breakfast Program between 7:45am and 8:30am for students arriving between these times. Students are supervised in the yard from 8:30am. Students should line up outside the back door at 8:45am after the bell to enter the building. School finishes at 3:20pm each day with lunchtime from 1:30pm to 2:20pm.

For the safety of our students, we ask that children crossing Impey Street MUST use the School Crossing, which is unsupervised in the mornings, and supervised by a staff member in the afternoon. Children crossing Rushworth Road should use the 'Supervised School Crossing'. Where a supervisor will be on duty from 8.15am to 9.00am in the mornings and from 3.15pm to 3.45pm each afternoon. Cyclists and scooter riders must wear a helmet and should wheel bikes and scooters across crossings and into the school grounds.

Vic Roads recommends that children under 10 do not ride unsupervised and children under 12 are expected to ride on the footpath.

Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF) - Applications

If you hold a Health Care Card or Pension Card you may be eligible for \$125.00 towards your child's camp, excursions and sports. All you need to do is complete the CSEF application which is available in the school office and return it to school. If you received the CSEF from Murchison Primary School in 2022 there is no need to complete a new application this year, unless your circumstances have changed. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

School Assembly

School Assembly is held each Monday morning from **8:50am**. Parents are able to attend, all assemblies will be streamed on Facebook.

2022 Year Books

Did you miss out on ordering the 2022 Year Book? We have a few copies still available from the office for \$15.

House Swimming Sports

House swimming sports will be held next Tuesday February 7 at the Murchison Swimming Pool. Events will start from 11:45am for the senior students with the younger students joining us from 12:30pm for some fun water activities. Permission notes will be sent home tomorrow. Parents and family are welcome to attend.

Conveyance Allowance

In 2023, families travelling 4.8 km or more to school are eligible for Conveyance (Travel) Allowance. Everyone, old and new parents need to fill out an updated form available from the office.

Child Safe Standards

Murchison Primary School is proudly a Child Safe School, including being a leading school in Respectful Relationships.

Facebook

Yes! We do have Facebook, checked out our Murchison Primary School page.

Have a great week!

Karen Goodwin

AROUND THE SCHOOL:

Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful & Be a Learner



FOUNDATION STUDENTS 2023

From Left to Right

Top: Arthur, Eric & Brady

Middle: Erick & Eliza

Bottom: Lulu & Isla

LIBRARY NEWS: The library is now open for 2023 borrowing. There are still some of our precious books that were not returned last year. There are also a number of Take Home Readers missing. We ask that you have a good search around your home to ensure all

MPS owned books are returned for future use.
Thanks!



MASK:

Welcome back to 2023! I hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday. Just a few things to get us under way for this year. Thank you to the families that enjoyed the holiday program. Your invoices have been sent out and payment would be gratefully appreciated. Thank you to those of you have made payments over the holidays, your payments will show in a fortnights time with the next account cycle.

Every year we need you to update your enrolment form. This can be done three ways.

1 go through the Hubhello web site

2 sight and sign the hard copied held in MASK

3 fill in a new form from the office.

We also need you to tell us which days your child/ren need to use our service. We also welcome new families to our service. Pop on in after school and see what we get up to!

Cheers, Sharon

SCHOOL LEVIES (\$220 for 2023):

These voluntary contributions are to cover the cost of providing all the materials and equipment for their learning programs. This are only to recover our expenses. A charge of \$15 is to cover the expenses we have for our fruit program.

PERSONAL PROPERTY:

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. The Department of Education does not hold insurance for personal property brought to

schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. We are just reminding everyone at the beginning of the year. Staff and students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

MURCHISON PRIMARY SCHOOL BYOD

Year 3-6:

IPADS (wifi only) that can run IOS 10 and 11 are suitable to be part of the BYOD program. Participation in our BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program is voluntary and only for Year 3-6 students. Children will not share their device with other students. Students without an IPAD will have the opportunity to share a school one. All students have been given an agreement form, if your child will be bringing a

BYOD, please complete the form and return it to school.

Shop around, IPADS are much cheaper than what they used to be. Important information about purchasing is given below.

Purchasing through JB HiFi can be completed online. The school has registered with JB HiFi Education and access is through:

<https://www.jbeducation.com.au/byod/>

Contact the school if you have any enquiries.

Make sure you click on 'In store pickup'.

Remember that Officeworks and Harvey Norman have competitive prices and do not require an online order.



BPay option is available at Murchison Primary School. **Your Biller Code is unique to you and shows on the statements.** You can use BPay for School Fees, Kids n Fruit, Excursions, Camps and After School Care i.e. any payments you make to school. When you use the Bpay facility what you are paying for is not identified when it arrives at the school. If you are simply paying your outstanding balance this won't be a problem, however if you are selecting one item to pay out of several, you will need to tell us what you are paying for by: a note to school or by phoning Shelly in the office. In line with DET policy, if you do not advise what you are paying for, the BPay funds will be allocated to the oldest charges on your account.

TERM 1 PLANNER

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	30	31	1 No Foundation Students	2 Swimming Trials Yrs 3-6 11:30	3	4	5
2	6 Assembly 8:50	7 House Swimming Sports 11:30	8 No Foundation Students	9	10 District Swimming Sports - Euroa Bee Shop	11	12
3	13 1-6 Swimming	14 Life Ed	15 No Foundation Students Life Ed 1-6 Swimming School Council	16	17 1-6 Swimming	18	19
4	20	21	22 No Foundation Students	23	24 Bee Shop	25	26
5	27	28	March 1	2	3 School Clean Up Aust. Day	4	5
6	6	7	8	9	10 Responsible Pet Ownership Bee Shop	11	12
7	13 Labour Day	14	15 NAPLAN begins	16	17 Melbourne Symphony Orchestra	18	19
8	20	21	22 School Council AGM	23	24 Ride to School Bee Shop	25	26
9	27 NAPLAN ends	28	29	30	31	April 1 150 + 1 Celebrations	2
10	3	4	5	6 Bonnet Parade Last Day Term 1 2:20 Finish	7 Good Friday	9	10 Easter

STUDENT ABSENCES: Please phone the school or send a message if your child is going to be away. Attached to every newsletter is an absence note to use if your child is absent from school. Children are expected to be at school every day unless unwell. Please support your child's learning and ensure they are at school by 8.50am every day.

Murchison Primary School Student Absence Form



Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Reason _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Please hand to
your class
teacher

Chaplain's News

Hi all, very excited to be back at Murchison for 2023. My day started with “Chappy, Chappy, Chappy” at the gate this morning from Des, what a welcome back. 😊

Speaking about “at the gate”. I will continue with coffee/ hot chocolates just not sure what day yet but will keep you posted and keep an eye out for the trolley. I would like to congratulate Grace and Sadie on their appointment as School Captains 2023. I wish you all the best, the school is in good hands with you leading the way. We are planning a welcome to 2023 BBQ soon so keep an eye out for information. I am looking forward to 2023. Have you ever thought, what does Chappy do at the school? My day starts by welcoming students and parents as they walk in. This is usually followed by a catch up with the principal or teachers. Out of this contact, I visit classrooms, taking time to encourage and engage with students and staff. I am in the yard at recess and at lunch to be a presence and provide opportunity to engage, helping students find friends and interact. I listen to parents who share, I look intently for opportunities to care. I write Chaplains News, I do Chappy's Chat and coffee's at the gate. I visit after school care, I listen to stories, I tell stories. I play the guitar, I run a Mechanics club, I give high fives and say hello and sit down with anyone who is feeling low, I listen to kids who have grief to share, I say well done, keep trying, you did it and so much more. So if you are in the school and see me there. I am in the school providing pastoral care. Chappy. 😊

Introducing

SCHOLASTIC

Book Clubs LOOP

for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Clubs
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Clubs by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON
Google play

Download on the
App Store

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB- Issue 1 is due: Thursday 16th Feb.

The first addition of Scholastic Book Club has been issued. Book Club offers a convenient way to purchase some great books at discounted prices. There are books for all ages, there are 8 issues per year. Therefore twice a term Book Club brochures are distributed to each student. Simply browse the brochures with your child, make any selections you may want, and order online via the LOOP website or app before the closing date or return the completed order to the school office with correct payment (in an envelope labeled Book Club). All orders are processed and then the books are delivered to school within two weeks.

If you are making a ‘surprise-gift’ order you’d prefer your child didn’t know about please specify this on the order as books are delivered to your child to take home.

If you don’t wish for your child to be a part of Scholastic Book Club please let me know and you can be removed from the list.

*Furthermore, every order you place earns MPS free books and learning resources. Thanks in advance for your support,
Felicity Watson*



Murchison Primary School Breakfast Club Program

We are very excited to announce that our school breakfast program is back we will be offering breakfast every day.

The Department of Education through the State Government is again partnering with Foodbank Victoria to establish the Breakfast Club program in over 500 of the most disadvantaged schools across Victoria.

The benefits of having a Breakfast Club program at school include:

- Improvement in child engagement in the classroom;
- Improvement in school attendance;
- Improvement in behaviour;
- Develop of child's social skills;
- Improvement in academic outcomes;

To make this program a successful and sustainable one we need some support.

Breakfast Club - Expression of Interest

Support can be offered in a variety of ways; it doesn't have to be volunteering at the program of a morning. Please see the list below for ideas: (Please highlight/circle the areas where you can help).

1. I am interested in volunteering my time to help run the program of a morning (approx. 7:45 – 8:45):

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

2. I am interested in helping to cook foods for the program (for example: muffins) using the foods provided by Foodbank.

3. Any other great ideas:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit
www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 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 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



Kids in Hot Cars

NEVER LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED IN A CAR

The thought of running a quick errand and leaving the children in the car for a minute can be tempting for a parent or carer. Leaving children unattended in a car on any day is dangerous, let alone a hot summer's day. It could result in serious injury or death. In some states it is against the law to leave children unattended in a car. Check the motoring authority in your state or territory for the relevant laws and regulations.



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

On a typical Australian summer day, the temperature inside a parked car can be 20 degrees C to 30 degrees C hotter than the outside temperature.

The temperature inside a car can reach dangerous levels quickly; 75% of the temperature rise occurs within the first 5 minutes of closing and leaving the car. Large cars heat up just as fast as smaller ones.

Leaving the windows down slightly has little effect on the inside car temperature. Tests conducted by RACQ have shown that when car windows are left open by 10cm, the inside temperature is only 5 degrees C cooler than with the windows closed.

Young children are more sensitive to heat than older children or adults as their body temperature can rise 3 to 5 times faster. This puts them at greater risk of heatstroke and other health risks as their body temperature reaches dangerous levels much sooner.



HOT CARS SAFETY TIPS

- If you have to leave the car, even to run a quick errand - take the children with you.
- Never use the car as a substitute 'babysitter'.
- Never leave children in a car without adult supervision for any length of time, not even a minute!
- Lock cars and secure keys when at home to prevent children playing inside the car.
- Make 'look before you leave' a routine whenever you get out of the car.
- When a child is missing, in addition to checking backyard pools and any other bodies of water, be sure to check inside the car and the boot of any nearby vehicles.
- Never leave valuables in the car, including your kids!

SUMMER HOLIDAY TRAVELLING

- Provide plenty of cool water and fluids throughout the journey.
- Dress kids in lightweight and easy fit clothing.
- When planning a long journey, consider travelling in the cooler hours of the day.
- Plan to stop every 2 hours so all passengers can have a rest from travelling.
- If you need to protect babies or young children from sun through the car windows, use a visor or sunshade on the vehicle glass.
- On every trip, check the fit of your child's harness, child restraint tether straps and secure seatbelts to ensure they are correctly latched and firmly adjusted.

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU SEE A CHILD ALONE IN A CAR?

- If you notice that a child has been left unattended in a vehicle call 000 and ask for the Fire Brigade.
- Give your location, the vehicle registration number, the approximate age of the child and the condition of the child.
- If the car is unlocked, open the doors and shield windows with a blanket etc. and wait for emergency services - or - safely try to remove the child from the vehicle if you are concerned about the child's condition as every second counts!

For further information please visit Kidsafe Victoria at:
www.kidsafevic.com.au

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www.lionsaustralia.org

Newsletter article: Schools on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and Schools at Risk of Grassfire (Category 4)

Here is an article for you to publish in your newsletter or on your website. It will help you communicate to parents that your school is listed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) or is a school at risk of grassfire (Category 4) and is prepared should a Code Red day be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner.

When using the article, you are advised to:

- review the text for relevance to the specific circumstance - noting that red text indicates statements that are optional or that must be reviewed for each use
- copy the required text onto your school's website or into the newsletter

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at risk of grassfire (Category 4) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire or grassfire risk.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter [and SMS message/phone tree]. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- All bus routes that travel through the Code Red area will be cancelled.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, [reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters]

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, [by checking our website [insert URL] and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters



JUNIOR FOOTBALL AND NETBALL 2023

The Murchison-Toolamba Football Netball Club is continuing to build on its strong junior program in 2023. This season we are seeking to offer opportunities to participate football and netball in a variety of formats to suit your child and your family.

All prospective players and their families are invited to a Season Launch at the Murchison Swimming Pool on Saturday 11th February from 11am to 3pm – Free BBQ. \$4 pool entry.

Tatura Netball Association

All games are played on Friday nights at Tatura Park, commencing on Friday 24th February and running for a 10-week autumn season. This is a new format; more information is being sought.

- Under 9s Mixed Netball (Coach to be appointed)
- Under 11s Mixed Netball (Coach to be appointed)
- Under 13s Mixed Netball (Coach to be appointed)

Goulburn Murray Junior Football League

Home games and training will be shared between Toolamba Community Oval and the Murchison Recreation Reserve. Fortnightly away games will be held in Shepparton, Mooroopna, Tatura, Kyabram and possibly Numurkah. Games could be fixtured on Friday nights, Saturday or Sunday mornings. The first match is Saturday 22nd April and the season concludes in late August.

- Under 10s Mixed Football (Coach Craig Thompson)
- Under 12s Mixed Football (Coach to be appointed)

Training commences on Tuesday 14th February at Toolamba Community Oval.

Kyabram District Football Netball League

Home games and training will be at the Murchison Recreation Reserve. Away games follow the Murchison-Toolamba FNC fixture and extends to places as far as Avenel, Dookie, Girgarre and Tallygaroopna. Games are held on mostly on Saturday mornings with two Sunday fixtures. The first match is Saturday April 15th and finals conclude on Saturday 23rd September.

- Under 11s Mixed Netball (Coach Carly Tuhon & Sharne Bravo)
- Under 13s Mixed Netball (Coach Stacey Hodgkinson & Chloe Murray)
- Under 15s Girls Netball (Coach Olivia Kerrins)
- Under 17s Girls Netball (Coach Kristy Lee Ralph)
- Under 14s Mixed Football (Coach Peter Davies)
- Under 18s Boys Football (Coach Steve Kirby & Matt Sleeth)

Training commences on Thursday 16th February at Murchison Recreation Reserve.

Auskick

Auskick sessions will be held for younger players who are not ready for competitive football matches. These sessions will be shared between Toolamba Community Oval (5 nights) and the Murchison Recreation Reserve (5 nights) during Term 2 of the school term.

The first Auskick session will be held during the first week on Term 2.

For more details please contact Craig Thompson on 0407465560.



junior pool party

FREE DRINK | FREE BBQ | \$4 ENTRY
MURCHISON SWIMMING POOL
SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2023 - 11AM TO 3PM