

Mount Evelyn Primary School

16/2/2023
Issue 2

NEWSLETTER



Principal's Report

Dear families, students and friends,

Last week's 5/6 camp was a wonderful growth opportunity for our students. It was a very busy, "always on the go" type of camp, with many fun, adventurous activities to challenge and extend them. It was a privilege to accompany our students and witness them achieve the goals they set for themselves, accomplish many firsts and in many instances overcome personal apprehensions and fears. Well done to all the students for the behaviour and enthusiasm on camp and thanks to our dedicated teachers and support staff who gave their time to allow the camp to happen. I now look forward to the 3/4 camp later in the year.

If you been into the school grounds lately, you may have noticed that new shade sails have been installed in the treed area behind the portables. The sails were funded by a Victorian government grant to create outdoor learning spaces. Over the year you will hopefully see lots more changes happening in that area, turning it into an outdoor learning area where students can play, explore, and learn together in an outdoor, natural environment. This redevelopment was part of Mrs Angie O'Hare's vision for the school and once completed will be a way for the school to honour her legacy. School Council is currently in consultation to create a reflective walking path dedicated to Mrs O'Hare that will finish at the shade sail area.



As the year gets underway, it is important to communicate to our community that we do have students at the school with severe anaphylactic allergies. These known allergens include peanut and other nuts, eggs, and dog hair. Our policies do not include a school wide ban on these items, but we strongly encourage families to refrain from sending these items to school if it can be avoided. We constantly remind students to not share food and to wash hands before and after eating as one way of preventing students suffering a reaction. In addition to these students with anaphylaxis needs, we have others across the school who have a fear of dogs and for these reasons we ask families who bring them to school to refrain from entering the Foundation playground or gathering around classroom doorways and school entrances with their dogs. Thankyou for your support and understanding of this measure to keep all our students safe whilst at school.

Next week, as you will be aware, we are holding our "get to know you" meetings between parents, students and teachers. If you haven't already booked a time, please do so asap via the new Xuno app. These interviews are designed to open a communication channel between the teachers and home and provide the opportunity to share important information about students as the year begins. Please ensure that you keep to the 10 minutes allocated to you. If you need longer to discuss other matters, please organise an alternate time with the class teacher directly.

Feedback so far from parents is that the new Xuno app appears to be working well with users finding it an improvement from School Stream. We will continue to roll out new features as the year progresses, including the ability to sign and pay for excursions etc. If you haven't yet downloaded Xuno, please do so asap so you don't miss out on important information from school.

Finally, we will shortly be calling for nominations for our new school council, with an election to follow should it be required. Please look out for details of what School Council does and how to be involved. Nomination is open to all parents of enrolled students and is usually a two-year commitment with meetings held once a month.

Yours in learning,

Trevor Vass

Principal: Trevor Vass

Phone: 9736 2233

Website: mtevelynps.vic.edu.au

Email: mount.evelyn.ps@education.vic.edu.au



School Captains 2023

Congratulations to our School Captains for 2023.



BE RESPECTFUL

BE CARING

BE RESPONSIBLE

BE SAFE

BE YOUR BEST



Starting school is a big change for children, as well as for us parents! Supporting them on this journey and helping them overcome their anxiety and worries will help them to feel comfortable for the remainder of the school year.

Top Tips

- 1. Make sure your child knows that you will be back.** Be waiting outside when they finish to ease any anxiety, (or whoever is picking them up).
- 2. Say goodbye and leave when it is time to go.** Lingered can make it more difficult for your child to part with you and get on with their day.
- 3. Know that if there is a problem the school will contact you.**

Dad joke of the week

"I moved into a bungalow recently. I was going to move into a house but that was another storey..."

It's time to celebrate the unsung heroes of the Australian community – the inspiring dads, workplaces and father figures who are positively impacting the lives of children across the country.

The Australian Fathering Awards 2023 nominations are now open and we're gearing up for an even bigger and better celebration this year!

Take a moment to reflect. Who comes to mind when you think of a dad or father figure who goes above and beyond for his kids, who is selfless and dedicated? Maybe it's the teacher at your child's school, the sports coach who became your father figure, or your own dad who continues to inspire you.

Or, it could be a workplace who is leading the way in supporting families - making father engagement and gender equality a top priority.

Let's give these incredible dads and workplaces the recognition they deserve!

Nominate today. Go to <https://australianfatheringawards.org.au/>

Let's shine a light on all the amazing dads and workplaces across the country and show them how much they are appreciated.

We can't wait to hear from you!

The Fathering Project Team







Could \$500 help with next year's back to school costs?

Learn tips and tricks to grow your budget and saving skills. Save for 10 months. Get up to \$500 of matched savings for school expenses. Just in time for 2024.

Must meet all eligibility criteria:



-  Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card AND an eligible Centrelink payment*
-  Be studying yourself OR have a child in school (can be starting school next year)
-  Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
-  Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible



For more info, visit saverplus.org.au or call 1300 610 355.
To fill in an online enquiry form, [CLICK HERE](#).

Saver Plus – helping take the stress out of back to school time

The Saver Plus community program has helped over 55,000 Australians take the stress out of back to school time. It's free for eligible people to join.

At Saver Plus, we pair you with a savings coach while you budget and save over the next 10 months. You attend online workshops to learn tips, tricks and information to grow your budgeting and savings skills. Once you reach your agreed savings goal, ANZ matches your savings dollar-for-dollar, up to \$500. You can use that money towards education costs such as uniforms, text books, laptops or extra-curricular activities such as sport or music.

You could be eligible to join Saver Plus if you:

- have a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work (you or your partner) including casual, part-time, full-time or seasonal (we also accept child support and carer's payment as income)
- have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

If you're eligible, start now and we'll help take the stress out of next year's back to school.

To find out more, or to apply, go to www.saverplus.org.au or call 1300 610 355



Talking Tweens

**A Parents Building Solutions Program
For Parents of Children Aged 8 to 13 years**

Do you want to:

- Understand tween development?
- Improve communication with your child?
- Deal with anger and anxiety?
- Establish boundaries with your child around challenging behaviors?
- Deal with conflict?
- Improve relationships?
- Connect with other parents of tweens aged 8 to 12 years?

When: Tuesday evenings (6 sessions)

Tuesday February 21st to March 28th 2023

Time: 7:00 to 9:00pm

Where: Online via Zoom.

Cost: Free of charge

Registrations: [click here](#)

Enquiries: sharon.muir@anglicarevic.org.au

Please Note: Participants will need access to a device with video and audio in order to participate

Come along to these 6 interactive sessions. Learn strategies and share stories to parent 8 to 13 year olds.

PARENTZONE

BETTER
TOMORROWS



Raising Resilient Kids

**A Parents Building Solutions Program
for parents and carers of children aged 4 to 12 years**

Would you like to:

- Learn strategies to help your child bounce back from adversity?
- Support your child to cope with change?
- Deal with anger and anxiety?
- Improve your communication and with your child?
- meet other parents also wanting to raise resilient children

Join us to learn strategies, share stories and take some time out for you.

When: Tuesday afternoons (6-week program)

Dates: Tue 28th Feb to Tue 4th April

Time: 12:30 to 2:30 pm

Where: Online via Zoom.

Cost: Free of charge for parents and carers in Melbourne's Eastern Region.

Please Note: You will need a device that has access to video and audio, as well as a quiet child-free place to participate.

Bookings: [click here](#)

Enquiries: sharon.muir@anglicarevic.org.au

PARENTZONE

anglicarevic.org.au



FREE Bookaburra Story Time

Excludes public and school holidays.

Monday 9:15am - Mt Dandenong Primary School
13-15 Fardons Rd, Mt Dandenong

Tuesday 9:30am - Mt Evelyn Reading Room
Wray Cres, Mt Evelyn

Wednesday 9:15am - Japara Neighbourhood House
54-58 Durham Rd, Kilsyth

Wednesday 10:30am - Monbulk Reading Room
Main St, Monbulk

Thursday 9:15am - Chirnside Park Community Hub
33 Kimberly Dve, Chirnside Park

Friday 9:15am - Victoria Rd Primary School
Victoria Rd, Lilydale

Join volunteer story tellers and enjoy some favourite stories and songs.



Suitable for children 0-6 years - No booking required!



For enquiries contact: Yarra Ranges Council
1800 368 333 / earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au

Parenting Anxious Children

For parents and carers of children 0-8 years

Does your child worry, feel anxious and seem stressed at times?
Would you like to gain a greater understanding of anxiety and learn some helpful strategies to support your child?

Wednesday
22nd February
2023

7.00-8.00pm

Via zoom



This information session will cover:

- Understanding the role of anxiety and normal childhood development
- The signs and symptoms in your children
- Types of anxiety disorders
- What's helpful and not helpful
- Methods and strategies to support your children
- Relaxation techniques and tools, mindfulness, breathing etc.
- Where to go for more information/help

To register visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/CFBKG>

Enquiries Contact: Michelle Lehmann
Early Years Community Support Officer
earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au / 1300 368 333



Presented by Anxiety Recovery Center Victoria



VACCA
Connected by culture

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE AGENCY

Every child deserves to smile
Become a foster carer with VACCA
www.vacca.org

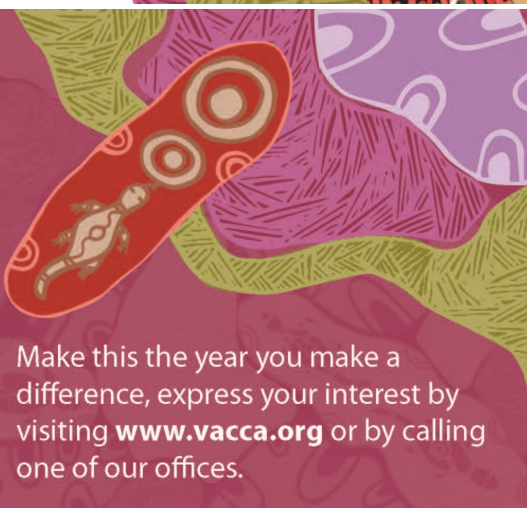


Have you been thinking about becoming a foster carer? Kids in your area need care!

Are you able to provide Aboriginal children and young people with a positive and nurturing family life experience that will support their needs?

Will you be prepared to support a child's cultural and emotional needs?

At VACCA we are seeking carers who are open to a journey that is both challenging and rewarding; carers who believe that they can make a positive impact on a child's life.



Make this the year you make a difference, express your interest by visiting www.vacca.org or by calling one of our offices.