Attendance at School
International Research demonstrates a strong correlation between students’ learning, long-term life outcomes, attendance at school and appropriate participation in education programs. For this reason, the Department of Education and Training has very clear policies and guidelines in relation to student attendance at school. These policies are the Education and Training Reform Act 2006, the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007 and the Education and Training Reform (School Attendance) Regulations 2013.

The Victorian Governments “Everyday Counts” initiative promotes the fact that regular school attendance enables students to maximise their full potential and to actively participate and engage in their learning. It is important that children develop habits or regular attendance at an early age. Students who are regularly absent from school are at risk of missing out on fundamental aspects of their educational and social development. Children with attendance of 80 per cent or less (that is, 40 days or more absenteeism per year) may be significantly disadvantaged in their learning.

The Education Act requires that children of school age (6-17 years) residing in Victoria are required to be in full-time attendance at a government or registered non-government school unless they are receiving approved home tuition, correspondence education, or have been granted an exemption by the Regional Director.

Late Arrivals to School
Student punctuality is equally important. At the beginning of the day students are informed of the day’s program, events and important instructions are often given. Students arriving late to school (after 9.00 am) also disrupt the class they are in, as they get organised and settled for the day. Your co-operation on this matter would be greatly appreciated. 9.10 am is the cut off time for late arrivals. After 9.10am students will be recorded as being late for school. (Along with attendance, i.e. number of days absent on the Report – June and December the school will record the number of days students arrived late to school.) A student arriving late to school must sign in at the office and their late arrival will be recorded on the daily attendance roll.

Parents/Guardians must provide a reason for their child arriving late to school.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February:
Wednesday 10th February:
- Swimming Trials at KooWeeRup Pool Grades 3 -6
Friday 12th of February
- Whole School Picnic at Cowes – Phillip Island. (Full details in next week’s newsletter.)
Monday 15th February:
- Grade 2 Parent Information evening starting at 3.45 pm
Wednesday 17th of February:
- School Council Meeting – 7.30 pm in the Staffroom. All parents and friends of the school are more than welcome to attend.
Friday 19th February:
- Inter-School Swimming Sports – KooWeeRup Pool
Friday 26th of February:
- School Curriculum Day – Students do not attend school on this day.
March:
Friday 4th of March
- Grade 6 Excursion to Sovereign Hill.

Reminders:
Throughout Term 1 and Term 4 all students need to wear a sun hat when out in the yard.

From the Principal….
Emergency Management

Over the last few days a number of schools have received various threats resulting in the schools being Evacuated or placed into Lock Down.
Cardinia Primary School has a well-developed Emergency Management Plan in place in case of any emergency taking place in or within the vicinity of the School. This plan has previously been activated when severe flooding occurred and when we had a leak on our bulk gas tank.
At our last Staff Meeting, the Emergency Management Plan was reviewed and discussed with staff as a precaution, making sure all staff are aware of the processes that will be put into place if an emergency does occur at the school.
Cardinia Primary School’s evacuation areas are the School Oval in the first instance and depending on the situation and type of incident, and advice from authorities children could be moved to the Hall or the Recreation Oval.
If such a situation occurs parents will be notified via Facebook, direct phone calls (using a telephone tree system) and other electronic means. However parents will only be contacted once the appropriate authorities have been contacted and all students and staff have been moved to a safe area.

School Fees – 2016

Everyone will have received a copy of the School Fees Structure for 2016 including a copy of the Essential Education Items to be found in each box. Boxes of supplies have been distributed to the students. Please pay for these essential items as soon as possible.
Parents with a Health Care Card or Centrelink Pension Card are invited to apply for the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF). This is a payment of $125 per child per year and is to help parents meet the costs of camps and excursions. It may not however be used for the payment of fees and books. Please see the office for an application form.
The Parent Payment Policy can be found on our School’s website or you can ask for a copy at the office. For further information, please see Mr Armstrong or Mrs Smith.

Meal Deal this week is Pizza, Garlic Bread and an Icy Pole for just $4.00

Please name a paper bag with your child’s name, grade and place the payment inside the bag. Meal Deal Orders are collected from your child’s classroom at the start of the day.
School Council Meeting
Our first School Council meeting for 2016 will take place on Wednesday the 17th February. This is our last meeting of our current School Council prior to the election of our new Council for the 2016 School Year. All parents and friends of the school are more than welcome to attend this meeting and if you are interested in being part of School Council please let Allan or Virginia in the office know.

Zooper Dooper Wednesday
Once again this term the student body has organised Zooper Dooper Wednesday to raise funds for their initiatives and purchases for the school. Each Wednesday at lunchtime they will sell Zooper Doopers for $1.00 (Limit of one Zooper Dooper per student)

FROM THE OFFICE
CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
If a student lives more than 4.8km from this school and this is their nearest school, the parent may be entitled to Conveyance Allowance. Please see Virginia at the office for a form to fill in.

PERSONAL DETAILS
If any of your personal contact or medical details have changed please let the office know. It is very important that we have up to date student information in case of emergencies.

TISSUE BOXES
Every year we ask our school families to donate 2 boxes of tissues for students to use in their classrooms. This helps us immeasurably by keeping our school costs down each year. If you haven’t already donated, could each family please supply 2 boxes of tissues (can be any brand) and hand them into the office.

DISABLED CAR PARKING
Just a reminder that the Disability Car Parking Section in the School Car Park is designed for those who have a Disabled Sticker on their car. Please do not park in this spot unless you have the correct sticker.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS
Our School Newsletter is completed every Wednesday and is usually available from the school’s website in the afternoon. Hard copies can also be sent home with your child. Please see the office if you would like a hard copy.
School Picnic

The School’s Annual School Picnic is taking place on Friday the 12th February. This is a traditional event held by the Cardinia Primary School Parents’ Club for the Cardinia Primary School community. It is a tradition that has been taking place for over 70 years in one form or another. It is held at the start of the year to give parents, students and staff the opportunity to meet and greet in a more informal atmosphere and is a terrific way to kick off the school year and get an understanding of the fantastic work that our Parents’ and Friends’ Club does for the school and its students.

Students who require transport to this event need to be at school by 8.45am and wait near the main entrance of the school (Hall Car Park). All transport will be leaving the school at 9.00am and returning to school as close to 3.30pm as possible. Families who are going direct or providing their own transport do not need to come to school but can drive directly to the picnic area, meeting us at the venue at around 10.00am.

*** Remember if your child requires a lift and is 7 years or under then you will need to provide us with a booster seat for the trip. This is a legal requirement. ***

A Brief Outline of the Day:

10.00 am Everyone arrives and rolls are taken by class teachers. (Mrs Esler teacher in charge).
10.15 am Slip Slop Slap takes place and announcements made.
10.30 am Start our walk along the beach
11.00 am Buddy sandcastle and beach sculpture competition.
12.00 Noon Lunch time for all – sausages in bread, corn, watermelon and cordial.
12.30 pm Beach activities – games and a paddle in the water
2.00 pm Pack up, and return to school for those students requiring transport

Things to Bring:

Water bottle/drink cup
Bathers – worn under clothes
T-shirt or rash vest to be worn at all times – even when in the water. (No singlet tops.)

Change of clothing / towel
Sun Screen
Appropriate footwear for the beach. **No bare feet under any circumstances.**

Snack
Hat

Please don’t bring:

Any extra beach toys, except a plastic bucket and/or spade. No flotation devices or boogie boards.

Friday the 12th is a normal school day for students attending the picnic and as such they will be under the supervision and direction of staff from 10.00 am to the conclusion of the picnic at 2.00pm. All students are expected to be part of the planned activities and parents and friends are more than welcome to join in. At 2.00 pm all children are expected to exit the beach area and we will pack up. Families who are staying longer can return to the beach area after the clean-up has been completed.

Attached to this week’s newsletter is the permission for this year’s picnic to Phillip Island. Included on the permission form is a map indicating where we will be conducting the picnic. For those who have been with us previously it is the same site as previous years.

Students are not required to wear their school uniform for this activity.
THUMBS UP

- To Nathan Eager and David Glover for mowing the oval and the surrounds during the holiday period. Greatly appreciated.
- To Ossie Preston and Madison Cafarella on being awarded the KooWeeRup Citizenship Awards on Australia Day for Cardinia Primary School. Congratulations to both of these students on this achievement.
- To our School Captains – Ossie Preston and Madison Cafarella and the Vice Captains – Jason Stokkel and Madison Howell for the great job they have done to date. A fantastic job with the School assembly on Monday.
- To all the staff who gave up a lot of their holidays to prepare their classrooms and work during the last couple of weeks of the holiday break. Greatly appreciated.
- To Ms Carneli, Ms Joosten and Ms Parnall for joining our teaching staff this year and being very enthusiastic and energetic as they commence a new chapter of their teaching careers. Great to have them all at Cardinia Primary School.

Student Medication

If you completed a Medication Request Form last year for your child/ren and wish to continue having medication kept at school the Department of Education requires you to complete a new Medication Request Form.

The Medication Request Form is available at the Office. Medication cannot be given to students without this form being completed.

We are unable to give students medication that is past its expiry date so please come in and check if the medication we hold for your child is still within its expiry date.

Medication to treat asthma or anaphylaxis does not need to be accompanied by a Medication Request Form as it is covered by a student’s Asthma Care Plan or Action Plan for Anaphylaxis.

STUDENT BANKING

Student banking will start this week. Information packs have been given to all our Foundation Students. If you would like to start a savings account for your child you can collect an Information pack from the office. Banking will be done every Thursday afternoon, please ensure bank books are at the office by Thursday morning.
Swimming Trials – Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} February

With the District Swimming Carnival coming up on Friday 19\textsuperscript{th} February, forms have been sent home for grade 3-6 students who wish to try out for our swimming team which has won the Carnival two years in a row! Our school swimming trials will be held on Wednesday 10\textsuperscript{th} February at Koo Wee Rup pool starting at 2.00pm. To try out students need to be competent swimmers capable of swimming a full lap without assistance.

Students are able to select which strokes/events they would like to try out for on the day.

Students attending the trials will need to pack their swimming things (bathers, towel, goggles etc.) with their school bag on the day as we will leave school at the start of lunch time, and arrive back to school in time for the end of the school day.

Any parents who are able to help with transport please indicate this on the permission forms to assist us with transporting students to and from the pool. Permission forms must be returned prior to the day to attend.

Let’s go Cardi!

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

Volunteering at school can be rewarding and a great way to contribute to your child’s class and our school. Parents who do volunteer at school on a regular basis or transport children to excursions must now hold a current Working with Children Check.

Applications must be completed online using the link below. If you have any problems with the online application, please see Mrs Smith in the office. There is no cost involved for volunteers however you will need to have a photo taken. Please see Mrs Smith or Mr Armstrong if you require further details.


Parent Information Sessions

Over the next few weeks each year level will be hosting a Parent Information Session. The first of these is for our Foundation Parents which is tonight from 7.00pm to 8.00pm in the Foundation Classrooms.

Grade 2 will be holding their session on Monday 15\textsuperscript{th} February, commencing at 3.45pm. Class teachers will notify parents through the Newsletter and Class Bulletins when they will be conducting their particular sessions.
MODEL AIRFIELD CATERING
HELPERS NEEDED
Parents’ Club have been asked to run the canteen at the Model Airfield in Wenn Road, Cardinia Sunday 28th February, as this is one of the many ways we raise funds for the school. We are asking for some helpers on both days to assist in the canteen.

If you can spare 2-3 hours in the morning or afternoon on either or both these dates, please call Sharon (0416 245 924) or speak to Virginia or Sue in the office.

We also need people to make cakes and slices to sell at both these dates. Please see Sharon if you can help.

BOOK CLUB NEWS
Our School uses Scholastic Books for our Book Club. This year will work a little differently to the past. Instead of each student receiving a Book Club brochure appropriate for their year level, Scholastic has combined all levels into one booklet which each child will receive.

If you are wanting to place an order parents can either pay cash or cheque to Scholastic and deliver payment together with their order form included in the brochure. Alternatively, you can pay for your order over the phone using a credit card directly to Scholastic then provide our office with the order and receipt.

Orders will need to be received at the office by close of business on Friday 12th February. This will ensure that orders are placed with Scholastic by their due date and are delivered to the school quickly.

Ordering books through the Scholastic catalogues is a great way to encourage your children to read and have fun. We, as a school, also earn rewards points for our School to spend on items for both the library and classrooms.

Parents and Friends of students are reminded that smoking and the consumption of alcohol are not permitted on school grounds or when participating in school activities when students are present.
SCHOOL PICNIC – FRIDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2016.

I hereby give permission for my child/ren .................................................................

to attend the School Picnic at Cowes Beach, Phillip Island on Friday 12th February 2016.

In case of illness or accident and when I cannot be contacted, I authorise the obtaining on my behalf, of such medical assistance as my child/ren may require. I accept all operation, blood transfusion and/or anaesthetic risks involved and the responsibility of any expenses thus incurred.

SIGNED ..............................................................................................................
DATE........................................

WE WILL BE GOING DIRECTLY FROM HOME TO PHILLIP ISLAND. YES/NO (Please circle)

OR

MY CHILD/REN WILL NEED TRANSPORT TO THE PICNIC YES/NO (Please circle)

I CAN HELP WITH TRANSPORT FROM SCHOOL TO PHILLIP ISLAND AND CAN TAKE ............ EXTRA CHILDREN IN MY CAR. **MY DETAILS ARE ON RECORD AT THE OFFICE**

**If your registration and insurance details are not on record and you wish to help with transport, please see Virginia at the office for a form. To transport students, parents are required to have a current Working with Children’s Check. Please see Virginia for further details**

For catering purposes please advise the number of adults and extra children attending the picnic.

ADULTS ............... EXTRA CHILDREN ...............
PAKENHAM BUCKS

Hardy's has teamed up with local schools to start a program called Pakenham Bucks. With every $25 parents and friends spend at Hardy's they will donate $1 to our School. We can then purchase any item from Hardy's with our Pakenham Bucks. This is a great way for parents, family and friends to support our school with useable items for the children.

3 easy steps

✓ Visit Hardy's and make your purchase (must be over $25)
✓ Mention the school by name before making your payment.
✓ Receive Pakenham Bucks vouchers to be returned to the school.

$1 Pakenham Bucks will be awarded to CARDINIA PRIMARY SCHOOL
With every $25 spent at

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20 Station St
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So you too can get a great deal while helping the school.
OFFICER KANGAROOS

PLAYERS WANTED

COME AND TRY!

Especially Under 11’s,
12’s, 14’s, 17’s and Youth Girls

Registration Day 7th of Feb from 10 till 1

Please contact Kelly Fowler on: 0418 338 081
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