



Kismet News

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Building the Foundations for Success and Happiness

7 February 2019

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Friday 8th February | 2:30pm Assembly |
| Monday 11th February | Meet the Teacher Grades 3/4 6:30pm—7:30pm |
| Tuesday 12th February | Meet the Teacher Grades Prep and Grades 5/6 6:30pm—7:30pm |
| Wednesday 13th February | Fete Meeting at 9:00am in the Staffroom—All Welcome. |
| Wednesday 13th February | Meet the Teacher Grades 1/2 6:30pm—7:30pm |
| Monday 18th February | School Council Meeting |

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Our first assembly for the year will be held in the gym at 2:30pm tomorrow. We will be introducing our student leadership team, and celebrating a great start to the school year. To assist us in running smooth, effective assemblies we have the following expectations of our audience (students and visitors):

Do Your Best

- I face the speaker when they are talking
- I stand and sit quietly as needed
- I will actively participate in assembly (saying the pledge)
- I will ignore distractions

Respect our school

- I will walk quietly and safely
- I will wait for my teacher instructions

Help others succeed

- I will ignore distractions
- I will respect the personal space of others, keep my hands and feet to myself
- I will applaud and acknowledge the success of others

You will notice that on entering the gym classes will remain standing until the singing of the National Anthem. We appreciate your support in promoting these expectations and courtesies/

MEET THE TEACHER SESSIONS

There are a number of ways you will be able to find out about your child's learning at school. During term 1 these include:

Meet the Teacher Sessions: These sessions are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher, hear about their expectations and how the class will operate. Teachers will also spend time explaining the key learning the class will be focussed on during term 1.

These sessions will be held at the following times:

- Monday 11th February at 6:30-7:30pm (Year 3 and 4 classes)
- Tuesday 12th February at 6:30-7:30pm (Prep Classes and Year 5/6 classes)
- Wednesday 13th February at 6:30-7:30pm (Year 1 and 2 classes)

Invitations were sent home last week. Please send your reply back by Monday 11th February to assist with planning.

We look forward to sharing our plans for term 1 with you.



SCHOOL—HOME COMMUNICATION

Communication Bags

Parents and students are reminded that all students are expected to use our communication bag to carry important hard copy messages (including newsletters) to and from school. Communication bags can be purchased from the office for \$10.

COMPASS We use the 'Compass' app (which is available to parents free of charge) to communicate with the community. This includes emergency notifications, school reports, newsletters, general information, notes and important dates. We encourage all families to connect with us through this app. To install this free app, just search for our school name "Kismet Park Primary School" in either the Apple App Store*; Google Play Store or link via KPPS website <http://www.kismetparkps.vic.edu.au>

QKR: QKR can be used to make payments to **Canteen orders**. Qkr! by MasterCard can be downloaded for free from Apple's app store for iPhones (iPads should download the iPhone app) or from Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

THE ZOO CARNIVAL FETE MEETING—9AM ON WEDNESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY

PTA will be holding a Fete planning meeting in the staffroom at 9am on Wednesday 13th February. As a major community event everyone is welcome to come along and get involved. Joining in and helping out is a great way to provide an exciting events for our students, raise important funds towards a vegetable garden for our students and meet other people in our community.

To become part of the Fete committee please come along on Wednesday morning or call the office and leave your contact details so we can get in touch.



2019 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION

Today's newsletter includes important information about School Councils. Our 2019 School Council election process commences on Monday 18th of February with a notice of the election and call for nominations. The following timeline will apply for this election:

Mon 18th Feb: Notice of election & call for nominations

Mon 25th Feb: Nominations close

Wed 28th Feb: List of candidates displayed

By Tuesday 5th March: Ballot papers distributed by this date.

Tuesday 12th March at 4pm: Ballot closes

Thursday 14th March at 4:30pm Vote count

Thursday 14th March: Declaration of ballot

Monday 18th March: Special School Council meeting to Co-opt community members

Monday 25th March: First School Council Meeting to elect office bearers.



Nomination forms can be collected at the school office from Monday 18th February. The role of School Council is described below. If you would like more information please speak to Glenn or Andrea

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad directions of a school in accordance with their constituting Order and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. DET employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school

A mandated elected DET employee member category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members

An optional Community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

For all schools with a year 7 and above cohort, there is a fourth category of membership:

A mandated elected Student member category, 2 positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. However, councillors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*. School councillors must abide by the *Code of Conduct – Employees* issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** (be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty)
- **act in good faith** in the best interests of the school (work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds)
- **act fairly and impartially** (consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self interest)
- **use information appropriately** (respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available)
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** (accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school)
- **use the position appropriately** (not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage)
- **act in a financially responsible manner** (observe all the above principles when making financial decisions)
- **comply with relevant legislation and policies** (know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law)
- **demonstrate leadership and stewardship** (set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable).

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent member category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for Parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Consider standing for election to school council this year.
- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

STUDENT LEADERS

At our final assembly of 2018 we introduced our student leadership team for this year. Next week we will be meeting with our leaders to discuss their roles and our expectations of them.

| First Name | Last Name | Role | House |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sadie | Bessell | School Captain | McEwen-Blue |
| Logan | Johnston | School Captain | Clarke- Green |
| Katie | Pounder | School Vice-Captain | Clarke- Geen |
| Tex | Drew | School Vice-Captain | Clarke- Green |
| Amelia | Malcolm | Performing Arts Captain | McEwen- blue |
| Chloe | Cernjavic | Performing Arts Vice-Captain | McEwen- blue |
| Tyler | Dowdy | House Captain | McEwen- Blue |
| Brigette | Burnside | House Captain | McEwen- Blue |
| Rakau | Loffley | House Captain | Clarke- Green |
| Mackenzie | Thomas | House Captain | Clarke- Green |
| Trinity | Skidmore | House Captain | Hogan- Red |
| Jayden | Hodgson | House Captain | Hogan- Red |
| Angus | Ross | House Captain | Lambert- yellow |
| Georgie | Thompson | House Captain | Lambert- yellow |
| Amelia | Malcolm | Band Captain | McEwen- blue |
| Georgia | Soderstrom | Choir Captain | Hogan- red |
| Mikayla | Mitchell | Dance Captain | Hogan- red |
| Maggie | Greenwood | Dance Captain | Lambert- yellow |
| Hayden | Spence | Junior School Council (year 5 rep) | Clarke- Green |
| Mia | Castagnini | Junior School Council (year 5 rep) | Clarke- Green |
| Lemeki | Malu | Junior School Council (year 4 rep) | Lambert- yellow |
| Alyssa | Murphy | Junior School Council (year 4 rep) | Hogan- red |
| Cooper | Drake | Junior School Council (year 3 rep) | Clarke- green |
| Leneah | Macasaddu | Junior School Council (year 3 rep) | Lambert- yellow |

INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose - Australia's No 1 parenting educator

Positive Parent Involvement - you make a difference

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school.



Parental withdrawal from children's education is a big problem these days as increasingly parents are worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities. By the time you get home from work or doing other activities you are spent.

But the message for parents is clear – become involved in as many aspects as practical in your child's education. The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents' views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Many primary schools offer parents classroom jobs such as hearing kids read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Parent participation is much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple ways to assist teachers to maximise the learning of your child. These include; hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure

kids go off to school happy, healthy and with plenty of sleep.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child's education in positive ways:

- ✓ **Find out** what your school is trying to achieve for your child and show your support for its aims. Discover what sets your child's school apart from others.
- ✓ **Support a broad, balanced curriculum** that offers children a variety of educational experiences rather than a program that focuses narrowly on the traditional 3 R's.
- ✓ **Direct constructive criticism through the correct channels** such as your child's teacher, the principal or the school's governing body. Gossip or thoughtless criticism within the general community can easily tarnish a school's reputation.
- ✓ **Become an advocate** for your child's school and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take pride in their school through your example.
- ✓ **Attend school activities** such as open days, concerts, sports events and celebrations. Invite other members of the community along as well.
- ✓ **Consult with your child's teacher** about practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven criterion for student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his or her school-life.

Published by Michael Grose

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For more ideas, support and advice
for all your parenting challenges
visit: www.parentingideas.com.au





Melbourne Japanese Festival

The Melbourne Japanese Summer Festival will return in 2019 to celebrate its 10th anniversary. The event will take place on Sunday 24 February from 11:30AM to 5:30PM and will showcase traditional and contemporary Japanese culture with performances, foods and activities for all ages.

The City of Melbourne’s International Engagement portfolio Chair Cr Philip Le Liu says this year, the City of Melbourne celebrates our 40th anniversary of our first sister city relationship with Osaka, Japan.

“The 10th annual Melbourne Japanese Summer Festival is an opportunity to celebrate the special relationship that we share between our cities,” says Cr Le Liu. “This festival explores Japan’s rich and vibrant culture and celebrates how our multicultural community has grown from its influence. We’re excited to welcome the 2019 Melbourne Japanese Summer Festival to the city for everyone to enjoy.”

Experience the vibrancy of Japanese culture from a variety of performances including local song and dance groups. This festival will not only be featuring traditional acts such as Taiko drumming, Okinawan folk music, but also contemporary dance performances and a debut bilingual talk show. If that’s not enough, everyone can experience the festivity of Japanese festivals first hand through participating in the Bon Odori dance or the Best-Dressed Award for lasting memories and fantastic prizes. <https://www.jcjsm.org.au/fest/>



PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS

PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS AVAILABLE FROM A VERY CARING AND PATIENT TEACHER WITH 30 YEARS’ EXPERIENCE

LEARN TO PLAY FOR LEISURE ONLY OR

PREPARE FOR A.M.E.B. EXAMINATIONS

(AUSTRALIAN MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD, HAWTHORN)

LESSONS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN ONLY

WOMEN \$40 (30 MINS) OR FORTNIGHTLY \$70 (1 HR)

AND CHILDREN \$35 (30 MINS)

LOTS OF FUN, ESPECIALLY FOR STAY AT HOME MUMS WHO HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO TINKER WITH THE IVORIES AND PLAY OLD TIME FAVOURITES AND POPULAR MODERN SONGS/LOVELY MOVIE THEMES

(A KEYBOARD ONLY AT HOME IS SUFFICIENT FOR PRACTICE)

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,

PLEASE CONTACT KIM, SUNBURY RESIDENCE, ON 0419 599 894

Testimonials upon request / Gift Vouchers for Lessons

***** **COMPLIMENTARY FIRST LESSON** *****

‘WORKING WITH CHILDREN’ UP TO DATE

