



Together We Learn

KOO WEE RUP Primary School

Wednesday 27th April, 2022

On Monday morning I attended the Koo Wee Rup ANZAC Day service with our School Captains. Our school leaders did an amazing job representing our school proudly as they led the march. We were bestowed the privilege of carrying the RSL, Australian, New Zealand and Aboriginal flags for the duration of the ceremony. It was great to see a number of other students and their families in attendance.



Principal's Message

I'd like to start this newsletter with a big welcome back to all of our students and families. Mrs McNaughton and I visited all classrooms first thing Tuesday morning and it was terrific to see our students so excited and happy to be back at school. We have a busy term ahead with lots of activities coming up including Education Week, Mother's Day and many more which I will outline below.

This morning Mr Dillon hosted the first Running Club session which was strongly attended. It was terrific to see so many students starting off their morning with a bit of exercise led by Mr Dillon.

Over the holidays, the builders have been incredibly busy and we are starting to see some real progress on our new building. I have been informed that from this point on there should be no further delays. Later this week we are expecting the roof trusses to arrive. These will be delivered to the grassed area at the front of the school and another temporary fence will be erected to keep the area safe and keep our main path to the office accessible. This should only be in place for a couple of weeks. As we now have a significant increase in the number of tradesman onsite as part of the build, car parking is becoming even more difficult as the tradesman need to occupy a number of parks adjacent to the building site. Please be mindful of this and utilise alternate parking options in side-streets as necessary.

Our gymnasium build is up to the 'Detailed Design' phase. Once I have updated images from the architects I will share these through a future newsletter.

This Friday we are hosting our school Cross Country event. Our Foundation students will run their event from 9:05am with the oldest students expected to finish their event by 11:00am. Parents are welcome to attend to cheer on their children. Students from Grades 3-6 who qualify, will move on to the next stage and compete on Tuesday the 17th of May.

Breakfast Club will be recommencing on Wednesday's from the 4th of May. This is open to all students who would like to come along and enjoy breakfast at school with their friends each Wednesday morning from 8:15am. Students who attend Breakfast Club are expected to remain at Breakfast Club until 8:40am when a staff member is on yard duty.

Annual NAPLAN testing will commence from Tuesday the 10th of May for all students in Grades 3 and 5. This year, Koo Wee Rup Primary School will be participating in NAPLAN online for the first time. Whilst this is an exciting move forward it does create an extra layer of complexity for our students. Our students have participated in a School Readiness Test and a Practice Test already to assist with learning how to navigate the platform. As always, our teachers will prepare the students for this as best they can. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is simply one-test and provides a snap-shot of students' ability at that point in time. For us a school it provides cohort level data which enables us to monitor the effectiveness of our teaching and learning programs as students' progress through the school. With the change in format from paper to online, this year will provide us with valuable base-line data from which we will be able to compare our progress in future years. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in NAPLAN this year please make a time to discuss with their classroom teacher.

Last Term I sent out a flyer for our Mother's Day afternoon tea on Friday the 6th of May. I look forward to having all our mums (or special guest) come along to enjoy a light afternoon tea here at the school. We will also be hosting the annual Mother's Day stall. A big thank you to our Parents and Friends Group for organising this.

Principal's Message

On May 11th Koo Wee Rup Primary School will be participating in Ride-to-School day. This will be an opportunity for students to meet staff members at a local park and ride to school together. More information about meet points and times to come home soon.

We have a big week of celebrations planned for Education Week (May 22 to May 28). We are finalising a few last bites and pieces and will provide further information to families soon. The week will include the Lamont Book Fair and a book character dress up day on Monday 23rd of May.

Mr Dillon has organised a terrific footy inflatables day on Monday the 6th of June. This event has been put off a number of times due to Covid-19 restrictions so it is fantastic to see the day finally going ahead. Students may come to school wearing footy colours / jumpers on that day.

A reminder that Monday the 13th of June is the Queen's Birthday public holiday and there will be no school that day.

You may have seen in the media over the last few months, items regarding the education industries workplace agreement. After much negotiation the Victorian Government has come to an agreement in principle with the education union. Part of this agreement is a re-instatement of Professional Practice Days for teachers. Professional Practice Days provide teachers with a much needed opportunity to undertake additional professional learning, meet with colleagues and visit other schools for the purposes of improving their practice. In normal circumstances, schools would employ casual relief teachers to take a teacher's class on such days. However, in the current climate there is a massive shortage of casual relief teachers. The Department has acknowledged this and instructed schools to hold a common Professional Practice Day for all staff on the same day this term and for this to be a student free day. Once this date has been decided by the school, we will inform parents so families can make necessary arrangements for their children on that day.

In this newsletter I have included a cyber safety article on Minecraft. Minecraft is a terrific platform for creative minds and children can spend hours engaged in building houses, creating villages and exploring online worlds. I know my own son loves it. Like many games though there are some potential pitfalls within Minecraft that adults may not be aware of and these mostly fall into the aspect of the game that allows live 'chat' within multi-player gameplay. This can be a great part of the game when monitored and the chat is only amongst known friends. It can become dangerous when un-monitored and open to anyone. Please take a few moments to read the attached info sheet on Minecraft and ensure your child's settings are set to what you are comfortable with.

At this week's assembly Mrs McNaughton and I will be starting Principal and Assistant Principal awards. We will present one each at assemblies from this week. Students are nominated for the award by their teachers. Students receiving an award will also be presented with a 'Principal's Award' or 'Assistant Principal's Award' wristband which we encourage those students to wear proudly. All winners will be invited to an end of term lunch with Mrs McNaughton and I. Our first assembly for the term will be this Friday from 2:30pm in the BER. Parents are welcome to attend.

Take care,

Ben Zimmerle

Principal

Principal's Message

the Carly Ryan foundation. APP FACTS MINECRAFT



Minecraft is a video game that allows the player to build, destroy and create whatever they can imagine. You are placed onto a map that has an endless amount of resources for the player to use to create armour, weapons, build, find food and other activities in order to survive the environment and the monsters that inhabit the area. Minecraft can be played in single player mode, local multiplayer mode or in *Minecraft Realms* which gives you the option to play with hundreds of players online at one given time.

Minecraft is suitable for ages 7 and above. Although, it is always a good idea to make sure your child is supervised and understands how to stay safe before giving them access to a game that allows them to communicate with strangers.

Minecraft Realms

Minecraft Realms allows you to play with up to 100 players at one time. Players can publicly and privately chat to each other over the inbuilt game chat feature which may lead to other apps being involved for communication, such as: Discord and TeamSpeak. The inbuilt chat can be disabled to allow the user to enjoy online gaming without the unwanted communication with strangers.

How To Disable In-Game Chat:

1. Log onto Minecraft and click on 'Options' on the main screen.
2. Click on 'Chat Settings'
3. Click 'Chat: Shown' until it reads 'Chat:Hidden'

Challenges

Playing Minecraft in single player does not put the user in any danger from other players, however playing in Minecraft Realms or multiplayer mode may put your child at risk of inappropriate behaviour, harassment and other forms of online cyber bullying.

Reporting Inappropriate Behaviour

Users who enter publicly joinable realms are subject to the rules and regulations of the player who created the realm.

Inappropriate behaviour is to be reported to the administrators of the realm--typically volunteers and in-game players--and will be actioned inhouse rather than through the creators of Minecraft.

Like any online game Minecraft can be a positive social activity that keeps kids connected to their friends. Just be mindful of screen time and be aware of who they are connecting with. We always encourage open conversations around privacy and personal safety.

App Fact Sheets available from the Carly Ryan Foundation. Please email: info@carlyryanfoundation.com

Principal's Message

Parent & Community Presentation

At The Resilience Project, our mission is to teach positive mental health strategies to help people build happiness and resilience.

Some of the mental health statistics in our country are startling. Looking after our mental health doesn't have to be.

We are especially committed to delivering programs in primary and secondary schools. These settings have the greatest opportunity to instil positive wellbeing habits in our youth, and rewrite the confronting mental health statistics.



One in four adolescents will experience mental health problems this year and nearly two thirds of them will not seek help.



Alarming, **one in seven** primary school students are also likely to experience mental health problems this year.



Through engaging presentations, student curriculum, teacher resources and digital content, our School Program supports mental health not just in the classroom, but also in the family home.

During our Parent & Community Presentation, Hugh van Cuylenburg or Martin Heppell will share their experiences and combine them with practical strategies that can be implemented every day to improve our overall wellbeing.

The research is clear; the more positive emotion you experience, the more resilient you will be. For that reason we focus on three key pillars that have been proven to cultivate positive emotion; **Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness (GEM)**.

Key Takeaways

As parents and carers, we know you want to show up for your kids, support their mental health, and encourage them to be the best they can be. An important part of showing up for our children, however, is first showing up for ourselves.

Our Parent & Carer Presentation will help you...

- **Equip yourself with simple, practical tools** to look after your own wellbeing.
- **Be informed** of the confronting mental health statistics in our country, and **understand why prevention is the key** to changing this narrative (especially for our children).
- **Learn about GEM (Gratitude, Empathy & Mindfulness)** - the evidence-based principles your kids' are living and breathing at school to feel happier and build resilience.
- **Feel confident** in holding positive wellbeing discussions with your family.

School Community News

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

This is the final part of the information we are sharing with families, as we continue to strive for our families to know what it is that we are learning about through The Resilience Project and how you might embed the practices at home. I hope you enjoy the video from Martin Heppell on Mindfulness. There is also a final summary video that you might like to watch to complete the series of videos presented by Martin.

Parent Information session – A reminder that we are holding our Parent information session on Monday 9th of May from 6:30-8pm. Parents can watch this from the comfort of their own lounge room or join us here at the school to watch the session.

If you would like to watch from the school, please let the school know by Friday 6th of May through an email to the school koo.wee.rup.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

If you would like to watch from home, please register using the following link. Once you have registered you will receive the link to join. https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YmLGrZ40SIaYLMV1-gyIBQ

For all those that attend the session, there will be a key question to answer following the session to go into the draw to win a Resilience Project prize!

Kind Regards,
Belinda McNaughton

Part 4: Mindfulness

The final presentation from [The Resilience Project](#) is all about Mindfulness.

Mindfulness is our ability to be calm and present at any given moment. We practice this by slowing down and concentrating on one thing at a time.

Thousands of studies have proven benefits include reduced stress, reduced rumination, increased memory, increased cognitive function and physical health benefits through improved immunity.

View Part 4 of the series here - Mindfulness <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/parent-and-carer-hub/>

Mindfulness can be practiced through meditation, yoga, flow-states and daily activities such as cooking.

Source: [UC Berkeley](#), [Greater Good Science](#), [American Psychological Association](#)

For mental health resources and support information, visit The Resilience Project's Support Page - <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/support/>.



School Community News

Mother's Day

On Friday the 6th of May, Koo Wee Rup Primary School is hosting a Mother's Day afternoon tea. All Koo Wee Rup Primary School mum's (or a special guest) are invited to come along and enjoy a light afternoon tea with their child/ren.

Mums will have the opportunity to visit their child/ren's classroom, chat to teachers and other mums.

We look forward to you all joining us.

Details

When: Friday May 6th from 2:20pm

Where: Afternoon tea is provided for guests in the BER. You may like to pack an extra treat in your child/ren's lunch box on this day for them to enjoy with you for their afternoon tea.

Mums can take their afternoon tea to their child/ren's classroom to enjoy together. For those with multiple children feel free to collect your children and sit together in a classroom of choice to enjoy afternoon tea then visit other classrooms as you wish.

School Community News

AN INVITATION TO OUR BOOK FAIR!

Where: Koo Wee Rup Primary School

Assembly Area

Date: Monday 23rd - Friday 27th May

Time: 8:15-8:45am & 3:15-3:45pm

Don't miss out!

Every purchase
supports our school!

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www.lamontbooks.com.au

School Community News

THE
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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 while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a 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 CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

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

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



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CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/carer details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

Foster parent under a temporary care order* **OR** Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

Is this an application for special consideration (no CRN needed)? Yes No

Student details

Student's surname	Student's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DFFH will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the DFFH and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

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CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – General eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or carer of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one
 - on the first day of Term two
- a) be a holder of one or more of the eligible financially-means tested cards **OR** be a temporary foster parent and;
- b) submit an application to the school by the due date.

For the list of eligible financially-means tested cards refer to the CSEF Policy:
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/policy>

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with the above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Special Consideration

A special consideration category exists for

- Families on a bridging visa, temporary protection visa, in community detention or are asylum seeker families
- Students in temporary out of home care arrangements, including statutory kinship care

For more information, see <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/guidance/eligibility>

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer concession card being validated successfully with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (31 January 2022) or term two (26 April 2022).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents/carers so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/CARER DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
If you are claiming as a temporary Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
If you are seeking special consideration, mark this in the form and provide a copy of the relevant documentation.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2022 closes on the 24 June 2022.

School Community News

Important Dates:

A reminder that families can check their calendar of events in the Sentral Parent Portal or upcoming events

Fortnightly from Friday April 29th - Assembly

Friday April 29th - School Cross Country

Friday May 6th - Mother's Day stall and afternoon tea

Monday 9th May - Resilience Project Online Parent Workshop

Wednesday 11th May - Ride to School Day

Friday 13th May - Year 7 2023 Applications due

Tuesday 17th May - District Cross Country (Selected students)

Monday 23rd May - Friday 27th May - Education Week

Monday 23rd May - Book Dress up Parade

Monday - Friday Book Fair

Monday 6th June - Footy Day Inflatables

Monday 13th June - Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 24th June 2:15pm - End of Term 2 dismissal