



The Poppet Head

Weekly newsletter of Quarry Hill Primary School
Wednesday January 31, 2018
Newsletter No. 01

Our Purpose:

To provide a creative and nurturing learning environment that enables everyone to achieve their personal best.

Principal: Jo Menzel
School Council President: Tim Shanahan
PFA President: Kasslea Shaw

2018 TERM DATES

Term 1 January 30 – March 29
Term 2 April 16 – June 29
Term 3 July 16 – September 21
Term 4 October - 8 December 21

IMPORTANT DATES

	Time	Details
February		
Thursday 1st		Prep Students commence Term 1
	9am – 9:30am	Morning Tea for Prep Parents
Thursday 15 th	5.30pm – 7.00pm	Welcome Picnic Tea – Bushland
Tuesday 20 th	7.00pm	PFA AGM followed by General Meeting
March		
Wednesday 7 th	All day	Pupil Free Day

~OUR VALUES~

Integrity:

Being true to oneself
Being honest
Owning our choices
Respecting people, property & environment
Being Positive ambassadors for QHPS.

Sense of Belonging:

Feeling safe
Being part of a community
Being inclusive and accepting
Being committed to friendliness and caring for others.

Passion for Learning:

Being curious, inquisitive, active thinkers and engaged learners.

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome!

Welcome to the 2018 school year! It was great to see so many smiling faces in classrooms and out in the yard earlier this week with both students and parents reconnecting after the long summer break. I hope that everyone managed to spend some quality time with family and friends and found time to relax and enjoy time together.

I would like to extend a special welcome to new families to the school. I hope that you and your child/ren enjoy a long and happy association with Quarry Hill Primary School. Tomorrow we welcome 51 new Prep children who will commence their formal schooling with us. It is a very exciting time for them as many have been eagerly anticipating this day for a very long time! Our wonderful Parents and Friends Association will again be offering a 'Tea and Tissues' session for the Prep parents as they leave their precious little ones in the care of the school.

Staffing

We welcome a number of new staff to the school this year. Ms Melanie Scholes is joining us from Girton Grammar. Melanie will be teaching in Grade 3/4. Ms Jess Telford is coming across from Elmore Primary School and will be teaching Grade 1/2. Mr Sam McCloud is also coming from Elmore Primary School and will be teaching Grade 5/6. Between them, these teachers bring an exciting combination of experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to the teaching team. Also in the mix, we have Ms Bev Gardiner starting as our new Business Manager and Ms Simone Fordham doing some Education Support work during Term 1. We also welcome back Ms Bek Peters and Ms Erica Dempster who will be working part time during 2018.

Quarry Hill Primary School, 25 Peel Street, Bendigo 3550
Email: quarry.hill.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au

Phone: 5443 3537
Fax: 5442 7590
Mobile: 0427 595 073

School Structure for 2018

Grade	Room	Teacher
Prep	8	Ms Jane St Clair
Prep	9	Ms Bonnie McIntyre
Prep/1	7	Mr Brad Shepherd
Grade 1/2	1	Ms Alexia Boyd
Grade 1/2	6	Ms Bek Peters (0.6) / Ms Tova Penno (0.4)
Grade 1/2	2	Ms Maria Tzaros (0.8) /Ms Tonya Van Deurse (0.2)
Grade 1/2	5	Ms Jess Telford
Grade 3/4	14B	Ms Tess Davies
Grade 3/4	14A	Ms Lorraine Beriman
Grade 3/4	4	Ms Sheryl Somerville (0.8)/Ms Tonya Van Deurse (0.2)
Grade 3/4	15B	Ms Tamiaka McErvale
Grade 3/4	15A	Ms Melanie Scholes
Grade 5/6	12B	Ms Laura Roberts
Grade 5/6	12A	Ms Sarah Edwards
Grade 5/6	3	Mr Craig Harrop
Grade 5/6	10A	Ms Merryn Walker
Grade 5/6	10B	Mr Sam McCloud

Specialist Teachers:

Art	Ms Brooke Wilson
Music	Mr Jeremie Collard
PE	Mr Ross Turner
Chinese	Ms Sheng Jie Chui
Intervention	Mrs Erica Dempster
Intervention	Mrs Sarah Harte

Leadership:

Principal	Ms Jo Menzel
Assistant Principal	Mrs Anne Rochford

Non-teaching Staff:

Business Manager	Ms Bev Gardiner
Administration/Education Support	Mrs Narelle Jones
Education Support	Ms Amanda Dole
Education Support	Mr Tim Murphy
Education Support	Ms Sonia Rodgers
Education Support	Ms Luci Hauke
Welfare	Ms Kerry Phillips
Maintenance	Mr Phil Ward

School Captains and Vice Captains for 2018

Annabel L and Jeremy M will be the Quarry Hill School Captains this year. They will be ably assisted by Jorja L and Henry T who will take on the Vice Captain roles. Congratulations to these four young people. They are all very excited about the year ahead and I am sure they will admirably execute their roles.

House Captains

Congratulations are also extended to the following students for obtaining the role of House Captain for 2018:

Archie G Peel House
Kasey L Amer House
Celeste T Malcolm House
Meridian I-S Harkness House

The House Captain role requires the leaders to not only demonstrate enthusiasm for their House but to encourage students to get involved in a range of school activities. I look forward to working with these young leaders as well. Other student leadership roles are currently being decided.

Supervision Responsibilities Before and After School

At Quarry Hill Primary School, the school grounds are supervised by staff from 8.45 am before school and until 3.45 pm after school.

There may be staff in attendance at the school before and after those times but those staff may be involved in tasks such as meetings or lesson preparation. This means that these staff members will not be supervising students. I know that a number of parents accompany their children to school and wait to see that they are settled, or stay to help in the classrooms. This practice is fine, and is certainly encouraged, as parents are supervising their own children.

Formal before and after school care is available within the school grounds and is operated by Camp Australia.

Information regarding this program is available from the office, or can be accessed online at

<https://www.campastralia.com.au/Schools/QuarryHillPrimarySchool/3550/B294>

Booklist Collection Day

I would like to thank parents for their positive co-operation in collecting books on the Booklist Collection Day. I would also like to acknowledge the office staff for the organisation of the day and other Education Support Staff for their contributions to the day. It is a big job!

Please contact the office if you have any further questions about school supplies.

Friday Afternoon Assembly

Parents/carers and family members are welcome to attend our whole school assemblies on Friday afternoon at 3.10pm.

Anaphylaxis and Asthma

We have several children enrolled who suffer from severe allergies to a variety of things including nuts and nut products which can result in them going into anaphylactic shock. Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life threatening. It must be treated as a medical emergency, requiring immediate treatment and urgent medical attention.

At Quarry Hill several strategies are in place to deal with this which include all students washing their hands before and after eating. Touching door handles, shared classroom resources including pencils and even play equipment outside after handling nuts or nut products can be hazardous.

Often boxes and packages are sent to school for art construction activities and are very useful. However, do not send any packages for use at school that have contained nuts or nut products so that we can minimise the risk of children with allergies coming into contact with products that may cause a reaction.

Action Plans for Anaphylaxis and also for Asthma are required for all children who suffer from either, and must be obtained from the family doctor. Please ensure that your child has an updated plan if they suffer from asthma or are at risk of experiencing anaphylaxis. A copy of this plan must be provided to the school immediately.

Asthma Alert - Spacer Use in Schools

Last year, schools in Victoria implemented a new policy in regards to single person spacer use.

This means that schools are no longer be able to wash, sterilise and re-use spacers and face masks from their asthma emergency kits when assisting students and children with asthma symptoms.

Spacers should always be used when administering reliever 'puffer' medication because:

- Using a spacer with a 'puffer' ensures that more medication reaches the airways
- Spacers are much easier for children to use than a 'puffer' alone, and allows school and preschool staff to help students/children during an asthma attack, often in an emergency situation
- Spacers are an essential part of the Asthma First Aid procedure that Victorian schools/preschools are instructed to follow

Asthma first aid kits should only ever be used as a back-up for when a child with asthma does not have their own spacer available, or if it is a first asthma attack or the cause of breathing difficulty is unknown. Your child's school may implement a policy where parents/carers are responsible for the cost of the spacer if one must be used from the asthma emergency kit.

Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer (and a compatible face mask if under 5 years old) is always available to school staff. To ensure that a spacer is not left at home, we would recommend that parents/carers purchase a second spacer for their child to have with them at school at all times if possible.

For further information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au

Student Accident Insurance Arrangements

The Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs, unless the injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of a Department or school council employee or volunteer. Students' accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare. They can be obtained by parents for individual students. Parents of students at Quarry Hill Primary School are reminded that Quarry Hill Primary School does not have a whole of school policy.

Curriculum Day – Wednesday March 7th – Pupil Free Day

A Curriculum Day has been approved by School Council for Wednesday, March 7th. Staff will be using this day to set important processes in place for the year. The day will include:

- Respectful Relationships Briefing by Women's Health Loddon Mallee
- Staff working on developing SMART (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic and Time bound) goals for students requiring Individual Education Plans.
- Staff working on the Department of Education and Training Performance and Development expectations for 2018.

Prep Rest Days in February plus March 7th

Parents of Prep children are reminded that for the month of February Prep children do not attend school on a Wednesday. Also, with the Curriculum Day scheduled for Wednesday, March 7th (see above) Prep children (along with all students) will have a further rest day on March 7th.

School Review 2018

The Department of Education and Training regularly reviews Victorian state schools to ensure they are delivering quality education to students. All Victorian state schools have a review at least every four years. Quarry Hill Primary School will participate in this process in Term 1 and early Term 2 this year.

Community feedback will be an essential part of our review, with parents, students and teachers invited to have their say. Our review will be tailored according to our school's needs and context and will aim to celebrate what is going well at Quarry Hill as well as helping us plan the next step on our improvement journey. The review process is not used to compare our school with other schools or to rate the performance of school staff. The evaluation is genuinely about supporting us on our continuing journey to improve and to deliver better outcomes for our students. A new strategic plan will be developed after careful analysis of our existing strategic plan.

Dates for our review are yet to be finalised. This information will be shared when it comes to hand.

Newsletter Electronically

A reminder to all parents and carers that the newsletter is now made available through Compass. We will no longer be printing copies for distribution from today. The newsletter is also available on our school website. We will be issuing new Compass letters with user name and passwords in the coming week.

Office Arrangements

Narelle Jones will be absent for the next 2 weeks. During that time, we will have Sonia Rodgers helping out in the office. I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as Bev and Sonia familiarise themselves with families as well as the workings of the office.

Jo Menzel
Principal

Quarry Hill Primary School, 25 Peel Street, Bendigo 3550
Email: quarry.hill.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au

Phone: 5443 3537
Fax: 5442 7590
Mobile: 0427 595 073

P.F.A News

Welcome Back!

Every year PFA hold a morning tea and tissues for parents of preps on their first day of school. We will be serving tea and coffee and have a box of tissues for those who need a tissue to wipe away those tears of joy or sadness. This is held in the staff room, in the multipurpose room, from 9:00am. As I have my last child starting prep this year, I will see you there on Thursday, February 1st.

This year the PFA will be holding a catch up morning every Thursday, between 9:00 and 10:00am, in the old staff room. Our first session will be the 8th of February. It is a great way to meet our PFA members, catch up with friends over coffee and cake, and talk about upcoming QHPS events.

Welcome Picnic Tea

PFA and QHPS will be holding a "Welcome Picnic Tea" on Thursday, February 15th from 5:30pm to 7:00pm in the bushland. This is a great way to catch up with old and new families of QHPS. Please bring your picnic food, drinks (no alcohol please), chairs and rugs for a relaxed picnic dinner. PFA will be handing out free icy poles and will have the second hand uniform store operating from the eco shed. If you have any unwanted uniforms you would like to donate please bring them freshly washed on the night. All second hand uniforms will be 50cents each.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20th at 7pm in the staff room. ***This is our AGM followed by a general meeting.*** ALL positions on the PFA are becoming vacant. These are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. There are also other positions including New-Members Officer, Second Hand Uniform Officer, School Council Rep and Sub Community Reps. If you would like more information about these positions feel free to contact me or come along to the first meeting of the year. New members are welcome and encouraged to attend. I hope to see you there.

Kasslea Shaw
PFA President

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY

Benefiting the health and wellbeing of our Bendigo school children

Proudly funded and supported by:

MICKERN Foundation, ALKINS & CO, ADROIT, PORTER DAVIS, Orrcon Steel

