

IMPORTANT DATES TERM 1

Tuesday 13th February

Teeth on Wheels

Friday 16th February

MPSSA Summer Sports
(selected students)
Round 1

Friday 23rd February

MPSSA Summer Sports
(selected students)
Round 2

Friday 1st March

MPSSA Summer Sports
(selected students)
Round 3

Friday 28th March

Last Day of Term 1
2.15pm finish

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear School Community,
Welcome to our first newsletter for the 2024 school year. I am very pleased to share with our community how proud I am of the start to our school year. It really is a reflection of the dedicated staff team we have at Rockbank Primary School. As I visit different areas of the school, there is a sense of calm and engagement in student learning.

I would like to thank the office team for their incredible work in processing new enrolments, which we are still receiving every day as well as setting up the systems of work that will allow our school to run effectively for students, staff and families. As of 6th February, we have 477 student enrolments. Our new classrooms are filled with students ready to learn. We have a new double story building, which holds the 4 x 5/6 classes, a new specialist classroom, where STEM operates from and two new toilet blocks, one for students and the other for staff. We will continue to see growth in student numbers over the 2024 school year and possibly the need for more classrooms.

The classrooms are amazing! The Leadership Team are enjoying visiting classrooms and seeing the teachers and ES staff working collaboratively to provide an engaging curriculum for every student. We were grateful our new furniture arrived in time for the students first day.



CONTINUATION OF PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We welcome new teachers and ES staff (over ten new staff), to our Rockbank team for 2024. We will be introducing our staff team in the fortnightly newsletters across the term. We are excited to welcome Ms Chloe Pierce to our Leadership Team, Ms Pierce will work three days in 1/2A and two days in her Leadership role. We congratulate Mrs Harpreet Kaur, our former Multi-Cultural Aide and Mrs Kamia Batra, our former fourth year 'Permission To Teach' (PTT) teacher, on becoming registered classroom teachers. Mrs Harpreet Kaur will work across the school and as the classroom teacher in 1/2A when Ms Pierce works in her leadership role. We welcome back Mrs Lucy Magnano from maternity leave to work one day per week as the additional Art teacher each Friday. This year Mrs Carly Lehane will work in an administrative position across the school, as our Numeracy Intervention Leader/Tutoring Initiative Program (TLI) teacher. Mrs Susan Mundie will be our Literacy Tutoring Initiative Program teacher. Mrs Alyssa Carmichael will continue to work with the Wellbeing & Disability Inclusion Program (DIP) team, coordinate and run Student Support Group (SSG) meetings each term as well as our EAL and TLI Coordinator. We will continue to have both Gethsi, Wellbeing Social Worker and Daniel, Life Coach / Behavioural Specialist supporting our students Wellbeing, working with students in classrooms and developing programs which will involve parents/carers. Our new PE teacher is Ms Melissa Richardson and Mr Neel Lodhiya joins our I.T. team.

We are very proud of our whole staff team. We have brilliant educators and a fabulous support team who will provide your children with an exceptional education.

We are introducing some changes to our communication platforms this year. As you are aware, we transitioned to COMPASS, our new school management platform in Term 4, last year. As we move into Term 1, we will be phasing out the 'Seesaw' platform and use both COMPASS and Class Dojo for all school administration, communication, and reward programs. Dojo will be used for communication between student, families, and teachers, which will include uploading student work samples to support Individual Education Plan goals

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CONTINUATION OF PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

and families to monitor their children's school reward points. It is with great importance and urgency that we ask parents to connect with us on the COMPASS system as quickly as possible. We will continue to use social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram to share events and reminders. We ask parents to access all platforms to ensure you remain updated about your children's school, events, excursions, activities and learning.

During Term 1, families will receive Curriculum Term Newsletters via Compass early next week from each of the teams across the school. These documents provide knowledge of what your child/children will be learning and experiencing during the term. Please take the time to read these as they allow you to connect with your child's learning. All teachers will also be completing Individual Education Plans for every student in their class. Our Parent Feedback Sessions with teachers, will commence in Term 1 and continue in each term from around Week 5 onwards. If required, Teachers may organise meetings with some of our new families to discuss their child's learning or for students with additional needs. If any parent has any concerns or requires a meeting, please contact your classroom teachers to arrange. Student Support Group (SSG) meetings will be scheduled for later in the term. Funded students will have goals developed during their SSG meetings.

We are currently planning an afternoon session for our Foundation families to have the opportunity to get to know each other. More information will be shared when dates are confirmed and event planning completed.

NAPLAN will commence in Week 7 from 13th March to 25th March. Staff who will be conducting NAPLAN assessment are currently receiving training and all Year 3 & 5 students will be given opportunities to practise and prepare for each of the assessment tasks.

On the 12th March, our school will undergo an OH&S school audit and then in Term 4, we will have our school review. More information on the school review will be shared from Term 2. Our school review will include input from our whole school community.

CONTINUATION OF PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Reminders:

Carpark drop off and pick up. We ask all our families to exercise patience and be respectful to each other during these very busy times. Our role is not to direct traffic, we have a duty of care to the students arriving at school and that is why we have two staff near the crossings so that children can walk safely to our school entry points. Some families are parking their cars in the 'drop off only' bays/zones along the fence line, this causes major problems to the build-up of cars entering the carpark. If you use the drop off zone, then students exit the car, parents stay in their cars and once children are on the path, parents can leave. We have another gate opened on Westcott Parade, families can park in the side street near roundabout and walk to that gate to ease carpark pressure, please keep the gates clear at all times on Westcott Parade as this is a driveway and a no standing zone. Children's safety is our number one priority at all times.

School arrival time and pick up time:

Please do not arrive at school earlier than 8:30am to drop students at school. We finish at 3:15 every day, parents must be at school by 3:15, not 3:30 or later. Please respect these times. On the last day of Terms 1, 2 & 3, we finish one hour earlier at 2:15pm. The last school day of the year, the finish time will be advised in Term 4. If you cannot pick up your child at 3:15, then you will need to organise your child/children to attend Big Childcare. Staff commitments after school consist of meetings, professional learning and planning. All staff attend these events.

We hope you all have a fabulous fortnight.

Krista Barnes
Principal



IMPORTANT REMINDER



ALL STUDENTS MUST WEAR A
SCHOOL HAT IN TERM 1

As part of the **SunSmart policy** students must wear hats from
1st September through to the 31st March

This will be enforced as of Wednesday 31st January

**School hats can be purchased from
Primary School Wear
in Melton www.psw.com.au**

Legionaire hat: \$16.95

Safety Slouch Hat: \$20.95

Please note that caps are not acceptable



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CELEBRATING OUR ATTENDANCE



COME TO
SCHOOL EVERY
DAY
(AND ON TIME!)
AND BE
RECOGNISED
FOR YOUR
GREAT
ACHIEVEMENT!

2024 Stats at 09/02/24

Number of students with 100% attendance in term 1:

296

TERM 1

Foundation

CLASSROOM STATISTICS

FA - Miss Gatt: 98%
FB - Miss Gregson: 93%
FC - Mrs Sharma: 83%
FD - Mrs Thornton: 89%

1/2A - Miss Pierce/Mrs Kaur: 80%

1/2B - Miss Kaur: 89%

1/2C - Miss Buttigieg: 91%

1/2D - Mr Shen: 90%

1/2E - Mrs Calidonna: 94%

1/2F - Mrs Haynes: 87%

1/2s

3/4A - Mrs Batra: 84%

3/4B - Mrs Murden: 93%

3/4C - Mr White: 88%

3/4D - Ms Soler Coy: 86%

3/4E - Miss Newton: 85%

3/4F - Ms Kastanaras: 90%

3/4s

5/6A - Mrs Layton: 91%

5/6B: Mr Randich: 86%

5/6C - Miss Walker: 92%

5/6D: Miss Eaton: 85%

5/6s

If your child is sick or absent, you are required to notify the school as soon as possible on the day of absence by phone or via Compass.

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CELEBRATING OUR ATTENDANCE



Rocky

Each Friday, the class with the best attendance gets Rocky to look after for the entire following week!



There are **10** attendance badges to collect featuring our very own Vicki and Vinny!

For each month that you are at school every day, you will receive one badge.

COLLECT ALL 10!

TERMLY PRIZES!

With excellent attendance, you can go into the draw to win epic prizes each term!

GOLD PRIZES



SILVER PRIZES



BRONZE PRIZES



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CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

A class member from each class is recognised weekly with our Student of the Week Award. This award recognises students who consistently display our school values.

Class	Teacher	Week ending 09/02
Student of the Week!		
FA	Ms Katherine Gatt	Mahveen Z
FB	Ms Molly Gregson	Kai R
FC	Ms Roseleen Sharma	Faris U
FD	Ms Jessica Thorburn	Lexi E
12A	Ms Chloe Pierce & Ms Harpreet Kaur	Soane P
12B	Ms Navdeep Kaur	Precious K
12C	Ms Stephanie Buttigieg	
12D	Mr Jian Shen	Aayan K
12E	Ms Gabby Wilkie	Jaxon S
12F	Ms Rebecca Haynes	Simon C
34A	Ms Kamia Batra	Sefo P
34B	Ms Megan Murden	Hargun V
34C	Mr Justin White	Rajbir B
34D	Ms Patti Soler Coy	Annaya M
34E	Ms Amber Newton	Stephanie A
34F	Ms Tracey Kastanaras	Samad H
56A	Ms Deb Layton	Carter A
56B	Mr Nick Randich	Kaiden W
56C	Ms Tegan Walker	Harkirt S
56D	Ms Megan Eudey	Aarav K
Class of the Week!		
ART	Ms Diana Georgievski	12A
AUSLAN	Mr Darren Still	56D
PE	Ms Melissa Richardson & Ms Harpreet Kaur	
STEM	Mr Aaron Rasmanis	34E



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CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS

HOUSE POINTS

Students receive house point tokens for demonstrating our school values while out in the yard.



280

440



310

370



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SCHOOL COUNCIL



School Council Elections

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 key directions of a school within state wide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

INTERESTED?

School Councils are made up of parents, staff, community members and the principal. To be a school councillor, you must have an interest in the school and be able to work cooperatively with others to shape the school's future. If you're a parent, guardian or staff member, you must nominate yourself to be a school councillor and then be elected through a vote (if required). A term on School Council is for 2 years. Rockbank Primary School Council has 2 parent representative's, placements (one for two years and one for one year) and 2 staff member placements becoming available this year.

All school council members must have a working with children's card. There are 2 sub-committees within the School Council including finance and Fundraising.

Meetings are held every third Monday of the month at 2.00pm.

Forms are available from the office.

**Nomination forms must be lodged by 4.00pm on: 24th February 2023.
The ballot will close at 4.00pm on: 10th March, 2023**

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SCHOOL NEWS



**CONTACT
OFFICE FOR
LOGIN
DEATILS**

COMPASS IS NOW OUR MAIN COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

SCHOOL
NEWS

PAYMENTS
& CONSENT

EVENTS, CAMPS
& EXCURSIONS

ATTENDANCE

REPORTS

To log in you will require your unique family username and password. These details will be provided to you by our school. Upon first login, you will be required to change your password and confirm your email address and mobile phone number. These details may be used by our school for SMS, password recovery and email communication throughout the year.



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SCHOOL NEWS

PARENT WORKSHOPS

You are invited to attend our Parent Workshops.

These are free sessions with practical strategies to help your child:

- *Manage everyday worries*
- *Build healthy peer relationships*
- *Thrive now and into adolescence*

Please use the QR code or link below to fill out this quick survey to help us gauge interest.

LINK:

<https://forms.gle/pCLZtaCfNERVkcqp7>



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CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

AT ROCKBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Due to severe allergies within the school, we are **making some changes** to what families can provide to celebrate their child's birthday from 2023.

Instead of food items, **families are welcome to provide their child and their classmates with novelty items such as stickers, pencils, erasers, etc.**

It is incredibly important that all students feel safe and included at all times.



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
UNDERSTANDING!



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REMINDERS

MORNING MUNCHIES



Each morning, students arriving between 8:30am and 8:50am are welcome to grab something for breakfast as they pass the Dojo Shop.

If they've already had a nice, healthy start to the day, they are even welcome to grab a snack for later!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

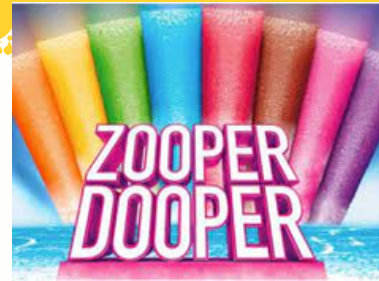
To stay informed and up-to-date with the latest news from Rockbank PS, follow us on social media!



GRADE 6 FUNDRAISER

Zooper Doopers will be sold from our school canteen **every Monday at 11:10am**

ZOOPER DOOPERS ARE \$1 EACH



ICY POLES

Icy poles are sold every **Wednesday and Friday** from our school canteen at **11:10am**

ICY POLES ARE \$2 EACH



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