



# "Learning Together"



*A community of active thinkers who can achieve their dreams.*

*Caring, Respectful, Learners*

Issue No. 1

Term 1

Week 1

2nd November 2024

## Absence Notifications

Have you received an SMS from our Absence Notification System? It is a requirement for all government schools to notify parents on the day that a student is absent.

If we are made aware of the absence prior to the day, we will endeavour to mark the class roll as such so that absence texts will not be automatically generated. Sometimes you may receive a text even though you have notified us.

In any case, ***we ask that you reply to the number with a short explanation or to ring the school to let us know the reason for the absence.***

The automatic notifications are being sent out of a commitment to ensuring student safety and well-being.



# Hats!

As a Sun-Smart School, all students are required to wear a hat whilst outside from the start of September to mid-May each year. Students that don't wear a hat are required to play in the undercover area at recess and lunch times. **Please label your child's hat!**



## IMPORTANT DATES

- Monday 19th February—Tarago District swimming
- Friday 23rd February—Athletics Sports Day
- Monday 11th March—Labour Day—public holiday
- Tuesday 12th March—Curriculum day—no students at school
- Wednesday 13th March—Naplan commences—Years 3 and 5
- Tuesday 19th March—District Athletics
- Monday 25th March-Wednesday 27th March—Coonawarra camp
- Wednesday 27th March—Last day of term for students
- Thursday 28th March—Curriculum day—no students at school
- Friday 29th March—Good Friday



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



## Dear Parents and Carers

### Beginning of the School Year

Welcome back to all students, families and staff for the beginning of 2024. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new students and their families who are joining the Drouin South Primary School Community this year. I look forward to getting to know you all as we progress through the school year.

Our students have done an outstanding job of settling in this week. Our Prep students in particular have been amazing and are quickly settling into their classroom and whole school routines.

We have a very busy term ahead of us with a number of really important events. These include our school Athletics Sports Day, Naplan testing for years 3 and 5 and our Years 3-6 school camp to Coonawarra. We also have 2 curriculum (pupil free days) for staff professional learning. Please keep an eye on the calendar on Page 1 to ensure you have these important dates in your family diary.

### New Teachers and Other Staff

Welcome aboard to our new teachers Faith Connell-Rohde (Year 2/3) and Saige Birrell (Year 1/2). I would also like to welcome Wendy McLean back to Drouin South. Wendy is replacing Anna Nauta (Long service leave) for the first 4 weeks of term. Our other staff are all back including our Chaplain Mr Hayno who will be at school on Thursdays and Fridays again this year.

### Communication and Newsletter

This year we have made the decision to send our newsletter out fortnightly. This will be sent via Class Dojo and Email. We will be aiming to communicate more frequently using Class Dojo this year from both a school and a class level. It is important that all parents are connected to the Class Dojo app. If you are unsure of how to do this, please contact your child's teacher or the office.

### Parents in Classrooms

In order to keep distractions to a minimum for our students we are asking that no parents enter the classrooms/building spaces without a pre-arrangement with the teacher or without checking with the office first. Whilst we understand this may be an inconvenience we are making this request in the best interests of students and teachers whilst they are learning and working. We are by no means trying to exclude parents from being involved as we will have opportunities for parent helpers and other assistance within the school.

### Supervision Times

Teachers are rostered on supervision duty from 8.45am until 3.30pm. It is requested that students not attend school outside of these hours. The exception to this are the students who travel on the bus and those enrolled in Out of School care.

### Assemblies

Assemblies are held in the undercover area each Friday from 3.50pm to 3.30pm. This week will be a shorter assembly commencing at 3.00pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

*Michael Smith— Principal*

*Caring, Respectful, Learners*

**Drouin South Primary School Community acknowledges the Kurnai –Gunai peoples as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and learn together. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.**



## Reminder—Parent Payments

All families should have received a letter towards the end of last year with the recommended voluntary financial contributions for 2024. All information was provided in the letter sent home. Copies of these letters are available on the school website.

We encourage payments to be made using the unique Bpay details on the letter(s) sent home, but if you prefer EFTPOS come to the school office for this purpose. The Department of Education discourages cash; if unavoidable please ensure correct amount as no change is held.

As previously outlined these curriculum contributions not only include a stationery pack (book Box) but also include a contribution to enable your child to participate in

- *Art — paint, crayons, canvas, glitter, coloured paper, glue, card, wool, material, wood, clay*
- *Numeracy – numeracy blocks, calculators, books, stationery*
- *Literacy – book boxes, class sets, novels, readers*
- *Music – classroom consumables*
- *Sports – equipment, ribbons, materials*
- *Science- equipment, classroom consumables*
- *Library – books, subscriptions*
- *LOTE Auslan – class consumables*
- *Online subscriptions to ESSENTIAL learning*
- *Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials*

Drouin South Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund to eligible Health Care Card Holders (see p.5)
- Individual Payment Plans
- State Schools Relief items
- Centrepay

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me: Louise Chamberlain (Business Manager 56276286) for a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

## Working with Children Checks

As part of our commitment to Child Safety we recommend that all parents seek a Working With Children Check. *A current Working With Children Card is required when assisting at school in any child related role whether this be assisting in classrooms, helping at parent's club events (eg. Mother's Day Stall), sports days, excursions and camps.* [Information on how to apply can be found HERE!](#)

[Our Child Safety Policy is available on the Drouin South Primary School website.](#)

## Duty Times

Teachers are officially on duty from 8.45am each morning before school and until 3.30pm after school. *It is important that students only attend school during these supervised hours.* The exceptions to the rule are those students who catch the country bus services and students in Out of School Care.

## DRINK BOTTLES AND NAMES ON ITEMS

It is also important to have a water-bottle (non-glass) for use at school.

All items of clothing and all belongings should be clearly named. Many items are found at school each day and most are able to be returned to their owner as they are clearly named. There are many items that unfortunately end up in lost property and never find their owner again!

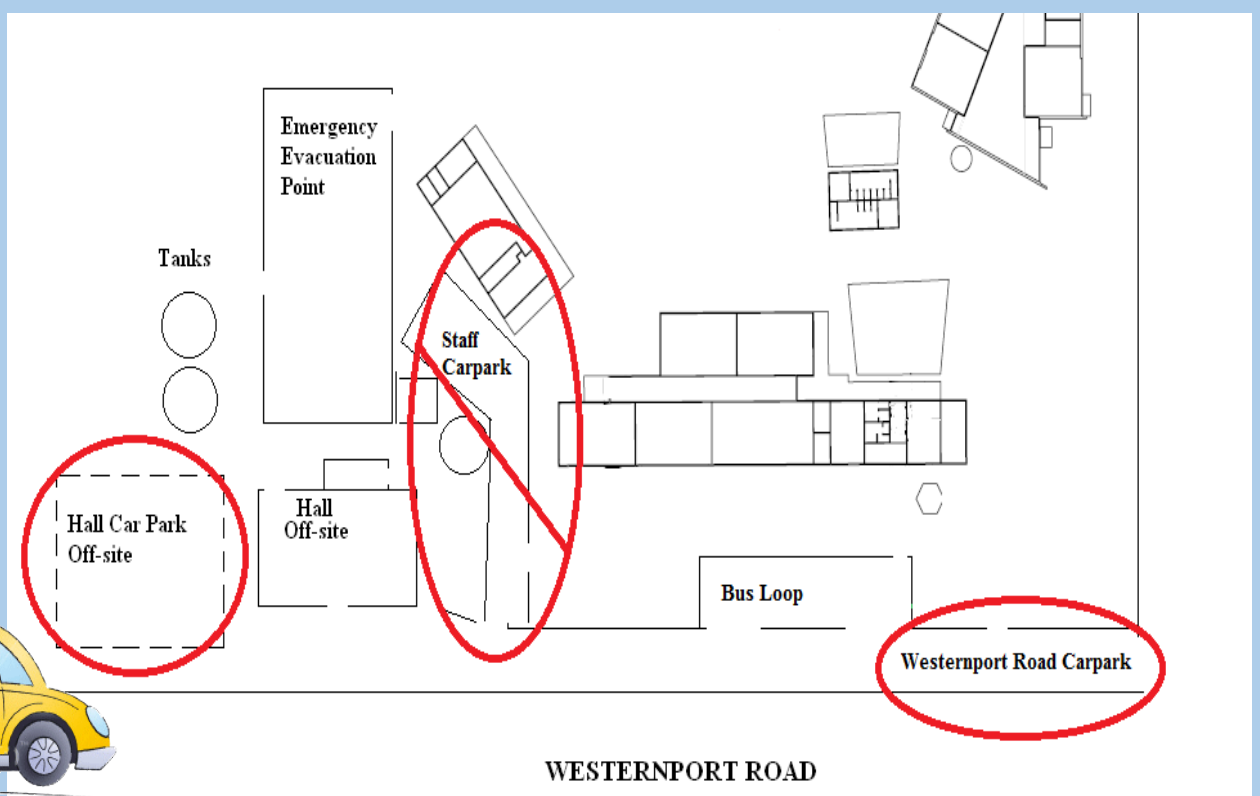


## Car Parking

We understand that the school car park areas can become quite busy at the end of the school day. We ask that parents please use the marked spaces at the front of the school OR park at the Drouin South Hall. Please do not park in the bus loop, the staff car park, on the neighbour's property/driveway or across the other side of Westernport Rd. One way of ensuring a car park space is to arrive 5 to 10 minutes *after* the bell. There is a teacher on gate duty (front and back) until 3.30pm each day. Please see the plan below.

### Back Gate (hall parking) Procedures

In the interests of safety for our children, parents are asked to please come to the basketball court fence and collect children after school.



Do you have either of these cards ?  
Apply for CSEF



### 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:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

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### 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.



 SCHOLASTIC

# Book Club LOOP

for Parents

**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
**L**inked **O**nline **O**rdering & **P**ayment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:

[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)



Please consider supporting our school by purchasing from the Scholastic Book Club, as for every order placed Scholastic gives back 15% of the order total to the school to purchase valuable educational resources!

## ICY POLES FOR SALE

**Cost:** \$1

**When:** Daily at the start of lunch time

**Where:** Ramp by the 5/6 building



Help raise money for Grade 6 Graduation

# Lunch Orders

First day in 2024—Tuesday 6th February



**OUR CANTEEN IS ONLINE WITH**

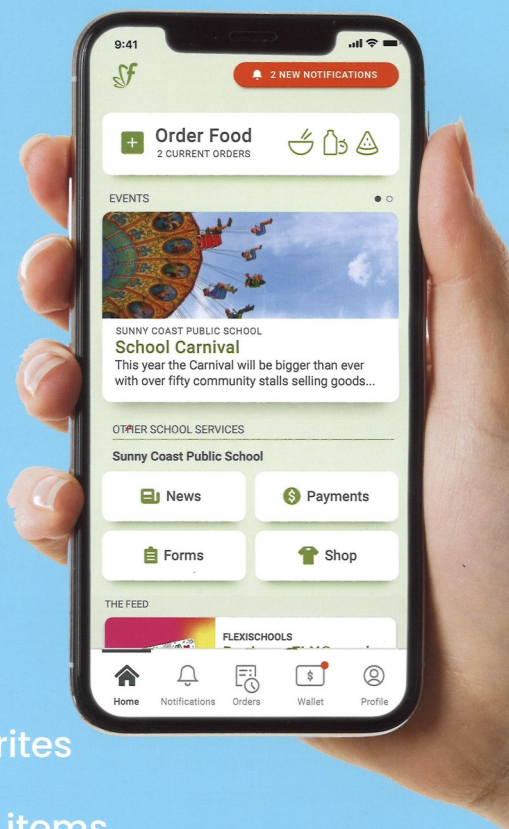
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**With Flexischools, you can quickly place school orders online through the Flexischools app, which has a 4.8-star App Store rating!**

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register for Flexischools



# Useful links for parents

We will gradually add to this page

## ParentZone Gippsland

Newsletter Term 1 2024

29th January - 28th March

Information on Programs to support parents  
and carers across Gippsland

E: [parentzone.gippsland@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:parentzone.gippsland@anglicarevic.org.au)  
M: PO Box 959 Morwell Vic 3840  
P: (03) 5135 9595

Please follow the link below to see the Parent Zone  
Term 1 newsletter

[PZ Newsletter Gippsland Term 1 2024 \(anglicarevic.org.au\)](https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/pz-newsletter-gippsland-term-1-2024)

A list of the topics covered are in the white box to the  
right

Welcome to Anglicare.....  
How can ParentZone support you.....  
Commonly Asked Questions.....  
Program Overview.....  
Talking Dads.....  
Breaking the Cycle.....  
Tuning into Teens.....  
Raising Resilient Kids.....  
Living with Autism.....  
Parenting with Purpose.....  
Parenting in the Early Years.....  
Tuning into Teens.....  
Setting Boundaries.....  
School Refusal.....  
Creating Routines.....  
Learning about self care.....  
Communicating with your family.....  
Connecting Together.....  
Small Talk In home Support.....  
Supported Playgroup.....  
Useful Contacts.....

## Did you know...?

Beleza's in Warragul and online not only supply uniform products  
for Drouin South Primary School, but also items like library bags,  
school bags, smocks and hats.



<https://store.beleza.com.au/35-drouin-south>

Shop 5-6 William Square  
Warragul 5622 2930







# Hallora Junior Footy Family Fun night

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 6pm**

We welcome you to a night of fun.

Come and check out our beautiful grounds, upgraded facilities, exciting new additions for 2024 and meet our official volunteers.

**FREE BBQ and drinks**

**AFL Inflatables; Mark n Goal Agility Run**



# February 16

## CFNC FAMILY NIGHT

# FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

**5.30PM JUNIOR REGISTRATION**

AUSKICK: 5-10yo and JUNIORS: 10-14yo  
NETSETGO: 5-10yo

Activities on the oval for all ages - the little kids and the big kids who arrive a bit later!

**BBQ - Snags \$2**  
**Bar Open from 6.30pm**




# FREE Questacon Pop-Up Science Centre

## Event Details:

The table below contains information on the town, date and time, and venue location of our pop-up events.

Sale	Morwell	Leongatha
Saturday 17th February, 10 am – 4 pm	Saturday 24th February, 10 am – 4 pm	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March, 10am - 4pm
Gippsland Regional Sports Complex (GRSC) 116 Cobains Rd, Sale, Vic 3850	Morwell LLC 45 McDonald St, Morwell VIC 3840	South Gippsland Leisure Centre (SPLASH) 52A Roughead St, Leongatha VIC 3953

## Description:

Join the *Questacon Science Circus* for a FREE pop-up science centre experience like no other! 🚚 🏠

Come along to spin yourself dizzy, test your reflexes, explore your fingertips under the microscope, and watch some of our spectacular science shows. 😊 📺

With over 30 hands-on exhibits, the *Science Circus* pop-up is a fantastic STEM day out for the whole family. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to ignite your curiosity! ✨

This is a FREE event, but bookings are essential.

Most people spend 1 – 2 hours at our pop-up.

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Hurry, book your FREE ticket now! ▶ [bit.ly/QSCVIC24-Tickets](https://bit.ly/QSCVIC24-Tickets)





# Mid Gippsland Junior Badminton

Presents its 2024 Pre-season training and competition

**NEW PLAYERS WELCOME**

Qualified coaches available, come try this great team sport, all abilities catered for.

## **FRIDAY NIGHTS**

2/2/24 & 9/2/24 ELLINBANK Badminton Club 18 Community Place Ellinbank

16/2/24 & 23/2/24 LABERTOUCHE Badminton Club, Public Hall 440 Labertouche Rd  
Labertouche

1/3/24 & 8/3/24 DROUIN Badminton Club @ Rec reserve Sinclair Street Drouin

15/3/24 & 22/3/24 WARRAGUL Badminton Club Galloway Street Warragul

6pm until 7.30pm gold coin entry for further information email

[mjbasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:mjbasecretary@gmail.com) or call Sandra 0438 582 921