



**Friends Learning Together**

# **Newsletter**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018**

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## **Principal's Report**

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### **Welcome Back**

Welcome back everyone to the start of the school year and for those of you who don't know, I am currently the Acting Principal at Frankston Primary School. The staff hope you all had a great holiday, and a good rest after a hectic end to 2017 and are very excited to see your children return ready to launch into the 2018 school year. We have had a sensational start with all students settling in to school routines very quickly and adjusting to the changes a new school year brings. We would especially like to welcome all this year's new families to our Frankston Primary School Community. At present we have 45 new Prep students and several new enrolments in other levels throughout the school. We welcome you all and hope that you have a fabulous journey at our school. We are a school that takes great pride in working closely together to support the education of our students and trust that you will become involved in the many activities that the school offers.

We welcome two new members of our teaching staff, Leigh Stewart who is our Physical Education Specialist and Rhianna Caffrey who has returned to our school after working overseas for the last two years and is teaching Year 1/2. We are delighted to have them join our team and know that they will offer a lot to the students at Frankston Primary School.

Special congratulations are in order for one of our existing staff members, Bronwyn Green who has announced that she is expecting her first baby. We wish Bron and her husband Mark all the best and can't wait to see what happens later in the year. We have an extremely dedicated and talented group of teachers here at Frankston Primary School, who I know, will achieve the best results possible with each individual student in their care. Many of our teachers spent several days at school preparing for the year prior to the first "official day" last Monday and I would like to thank them for their work in ensuring that our students were welcomed back to brightly decorated classrooms and engaged in such exciting activities. I am sure that 2018 is going to be a wonderful and successful year for all.

### **School Council**

Our School Council is made up of 8 parents from our school community and 4 staff members. Being a member of school council gives parents a chance to become involved in important aspects of school organisation which could include; developing and monitoring the school's Strategic Plan, reviewing School Policies, raising funds for school related purposes and helping maintain the school's grounds and facilities. This year we have 5 parents whose terms have been completed and we will be seeking nominations for these positions. The "Notice of Election and Nomination" form will be available at the office soon and further details will be sent home shortly explaining this process.

### **Newsletters**

Our school newsletters will be distributed on a Friday to the eldest in the family and will also be uploaded to the school website.

### **Meet and Greet the Teacher Meetings**

Forms for the "Meet and Greet the Teacher" meetings will be sent out next Monday giving you the opportunity to come and have a chat with your child's new teacher, either on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February for our Year 3 to Year 6 students, or Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February for those in Year Prep to Year 2. Many of you of course, know your child's teacher very well, especially those who are having a second year with the same teacher in a 1/2, 3/4 or 5/6 class. If you are in this situation, don't feel compelled to have an interview unless you feel it is necessary. These are not Parent Teacher Interviews but just an opportunity to introduce yourselves and provide any important information about your child that will assist the classroom teacher. At Frankston Primary School we have an open door policy which means our teachers are always available to have a chat with during the year if you have any concerns, all you need to do is see the teacher to make an appointment.

### **Camps Sports and Excursion Fund - \$125**

If you are eligible for the CSEF fund and you have not completed a CSEF form in the past, please contact the office to receive a form for completion. This will allow us to process the payment for you to use for upcoming school excursions and camps. Please note: To be eligible for CSEF you MUST hold a current health care card.

### Essential Education Items Charge - \$140

Thank you to all parents who have already paid their Essential Education Items fee, either with their booklist or at the office. I would like to remind all of you that this fee is now due and can be paid at our school office. This can be paid in full, or on a payment plan if you wish to pay an amount each term. We have an eftpos facility to make this easier for you. Our Essential Education items include things such as special art materials / cover paper, photocopying, items of stationary not included on the booklist and sports equipment.

### Uniform Swap, Donate or Sell

We are providing parents with the opportunity to get together next Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at school to either swap, sell or donate school uniforms that you no longer need. This will be done in the Office Courtyard between 3 and 4pm.

If you have any items of uniform you no longer want and wish to donate to the school's uniform table please send them in to the office as soon as possible.

Please see the letter that has been distributed with this newsletter.

### Preps Starting Fulltime

Just a reminder that our Preps finish school at 1:30pm each day until Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March when they will commence fulltime and finish at 3:30pm.

### Instrumental Music Program

A letter has been sent home today regarding Instrumental Music Lessons on offer at our school. Please ensure you read the notice and if you are interested complete the relevant form provided.

### Whole School Assembly

Our whole school assemblies will continue to be held each Monday morning at 9am to approximately 9:45am in the School Hall. We celebrate the achievements of our students and encourage parents and grandparents to attend.

The first whole school assembly for 2018 will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February so we look forward to seeing you all then.

### Late Arrivals

If for any reason your child arrives to school late we require that you sign them in at the front office. Whilst we understand that sometimes children attend scheduled appointments we do encourage all our students to arrive at school ready to line up outside their classrooms before the bell.

### Absences

If for any reason your child is absent from school we ask that you send a note explaining their absence on their return to school OR notify us by recording the details on the school's phone absence register.

### Curriculum Days for 2018

The dates for our Pupil Free Days approved by School Council are as follows:

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January-First Day of the School Year-Teachers only.**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March-Education Curriculum Focus**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June-Reporting Day**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December-Handover and Planning Day**

NOTE: No children are to attend school on these days.

### Challenging Times

There are times when we all experience some challenges in our lives that impact on our day to day activities. If you or your family are experiencing a difficult time and want to discuss this with me please feel free to come and have a chat with me if I am available or phone to make an appointment. I do care about what happens beyond the school gates and will support you wherever I can.

***I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and get to enjoy some relaxing family time. I will be bathing my dogs!***

***Jo Booth (Acting Principal)***