



Principal's Report

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Welcome to Term One 2024 everyone! And a very special Frankston Primary School welcome to all of our new students and families and our new Prep students and Prep families, we are excited to have you as a part of our wonderful school community.

We have had a wonderfully smooth start to our 2024 year and Term One. Our amazing staff have worked very hard over the holiday break and towards the start of this term in ensuring all of our students had warm, welcoming classrooms and learning environments to return to for the start of their new year.

I am very proud of our Frankston Primary students who have all returned fresh and ready for a brand new school year – working hard to sort all of their new school supplies, welcoming old and new friends and building positive starts within their new classrooms and with new teachers for their school year.

Welcome to New Staff

This year we are welcoming a number of new staff to our Frankston PS Team so I thought I would re-publish our staffing profile:

Prep / One Team:

- Prep /1 A - Rebecca Wilson
- Prep / 1B - Sarah Elias
- Prep/1C - Linda Robertson
- Prep/1D - Brooke Lindsay

Year 2 Team:

- 2A - Natasha Beattie / Kate Marino
- 2B - Ella Bell

3/4 Team:

- 3/4A - Rhi Drake/Nat Quirk
- 3/4B - Samantha Jelbart/ Sheila McDonagh
- 3/4C - Jill Lynch

5/6 Team:

- 5/6A - Bron Green / Karen Berry
- 5/6B - Scott Boucher
- 5/6C - Dani Rankin

Specialist Team:

- Art - Janelle Doyle
- PE - Cameron FitzGerald
- Performing Arts & Auslan - Dani Casey
- Literacy Support - Nat Quirk
- Numeracy Support - Jessica Brown
- Disability & Inclusion Leader - Sheila McDonagh
- Student Wellbeing Support - Janelle Doyle

Education Support Staff:

- Kelly Gosch, Angela Thompson, Deb Spicer and Laurelle Fisher.

School Office:

- Jo Corrigan - Business Manager
- Mel Taylor - Office Administration

Principal Class:

- Jo Booth - Student Wellbeing Leader
- And myself!

Student Learning

Student Learning Progress - Term One

Our school provides parents with updated reports each term on how your child is progressing in their continuous learning. These progress reports are in addition to mid year and end of year student reporting.

Term One Student Learning Progress areas of learning in Reading and Mathematics have been sent home to parents and carers this week through Class Dojo from your child's classroom teacher.

These are an important link of communication to parents and carers on what your child's learning is focused on during this Term One learning period and the learning goals that your child will be striving to meet.

Student Learning Progress Reports

- Provide an overview of areas of learning in Reading and Mathematics for students for this current period
- Will provide a guide as to how your child is progressing in their learning and will guide their Semester One Mid Year Report at the end of Term Two.
- Term One Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held in the last week of this term. With Mid Year Parent-Teacher Interviews held early Term Three.

Please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions at all about your child's learning progress at other times of any term; our teachers are more than happy to make a time to discuss your child's progress with you.

Student Wellbeing

A Positive School Culture - Restorative Practice

Frankston Primary School builds all of our positive school culture through a deliberate act and design that flows through structure, policies, procedures and everyday interactions guided by the philosophy of Restorative Practice.

Four principles guide the implementation and embedding of restorative practices into every aspect of school life.

- A restorative school encourages staff and students to pursue respect for self, respect for others and respect for the environment.
- Equality and equity sit at the heart of the school's focus.
- Every person in the school community has a voice and has the right to be listened to and heard.
- Learning and development are grounded in relationship

Restorative schools create the context for school staff and students to co-create the conditions for the strengthening of relationships and rights as well as underpinning learning and teaching.

Restorative pedagogy refers to teaching which is imbued with the principles:

- Equality and equity
- Student voice and agency
- Relational learning and development
- Respect for self, others and the environment and reflection on adherence to restorative principles and practice.
- Social and emotional literacy
- Circle Time
- Conferencing between students when things 'go wrong' and students harm someone 'make a mistake'.





Wellbeing

School Council 2024

The final School Council meeting for our 2023 council is Tuesday 13th February, with our 2024 School Council's first meeting of the year being Tuesday 12th March.

School Councils play a key role in Victorian government schools. Frankston Primary School Council is made up of a parent body, staff representatives and a co-opted community member. Participating as a school council member is a rewarding and challenging experience.

School Council:

- is a focal point for decision making on governance school policies
- is the governing body at the school
- is a representative body at the school
- is a representative body with a membership reflecting the important partnership between students, teachers and parents
- is accountable to the local community.

School Council meets a minimum of eight times through the year and conducts an annual general meeting and annual reporting meeting in March.

This year we have these School Council parent positions vacant to fill:

- 3 two year tenure parent School Council positions.

The first point of call is for nominations and then a possible election, if there are more nominations that positions vacant. Nominations open this Monday 5th February - further information on the process and timeline will be sent out to parents on Monday by the school office via ClassDojo.

School Policies

School Privacy Policy and Collection Notice

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website [School Collection Notice](#).

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in nine community languages: Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese.

Dogs In school Policy

Whilst Frankston Primary School understands that many families in our school community keep dogs as pets, to ensure that our school remains a safe and inclusive place for everyone, including our school therapy dog, pet dogs are not permitted on school grounds. We ask that families please leave their pet dogs at home or safely tether them outside school grounds, well away from school entry and exit gates, when attending our school.

For a full coverage of our [Dogs In School Policy](#) - please see our policy on our school website.

Student Accident Insurance

Student Accident Insurance is not covered through the Department of Education or through school. Any costs in relation to a student's ambulance transportation and/or medical treatment is incurred by parents and carers in relation to your personal Medicare and private health insurance coverage.

The Department of Education (DE) is aware of the following insurance company which parents are able to purchase accident insurance for their children - JLT (Jardine Lloyd Thompson) 1300 844 792.

Email: studentpa@thisinsurance.com.au

The policies provided in this fund include specific benefits for students who are injured in accidents at school for a reasonably low cost. Other insurance companies may also do this. If you are interested in accident insurance for your child please contact the company directly.

School Improvements

Buildings and Grounds Update

Providing and maintaining safe and high quality buildings and grounds for our students remains an important focus for us as a school, with a number of projects completed over the holiday period.

Completed works include:

- Gutter and downpipe cleaning
- Oval and basketball court maintenance
- Mowing and mulching of garden beds
- New softfall to both playground equipment areas
- Tree Safe Program work, including pruning and lifting of tree branches
- Thorough school clean, including refreshed student toilets.

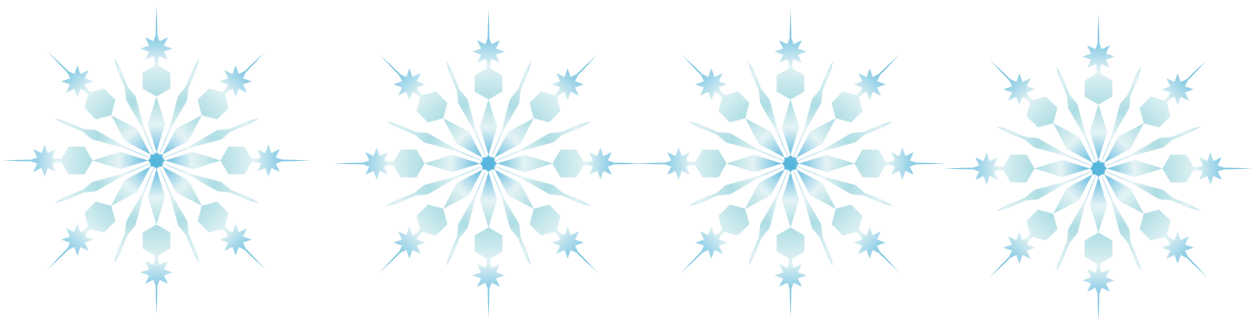
Two Weeks of Leave

I am taking two weeks long service leave (as mentioned in my final newsletter item last year) from Friday 2nd February (today) to Friday 16th February, returning to school on Monday 19th February. By the time you all read this, I will be nearly arriving OS! Our flight left at 7am this morning, and we arrive 6.35am this morning!

I am enjoying two weeks of snow skiing in Canada.

During my time of leave, Jo Booth (Assistant Principal), will be in the role of Acting Principal. I know that the school is in great hands during this time, with the support of Jo Booth and our school leadership team. So please do not hesitate to reach out to Jo and the Leadership Team during this time!

I will miss everyone during my time and look forward to seeing everyone on return!



Happy weekend everyone and all the best over the next two weeks of school!

Renée Kennedy

Principal

Student Mobile Phone Policy

The Department of Education has in place a student mobile phone ban and requires all schools to ensure this ban is enforced from the start of the 2024 school year.

This policy applies to:

- All students at Frankston Primary School and on school grounds before and after school
- Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices such as smart watches etc brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

Definition:

- A mobile phone is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network.
- For the purpose of this policy, 'mobile phone' refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as ipads and smart watches.

At Frankston Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones or related devices to school must have them switched off and securely stored at the front school office on arrival on school premises.
- Students who choose to bring mobile phones or related devices to school are able to pick them up from the front office at the end of the school day after the 3.30pm bell has sounded.
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office directly.
- Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Enforcement

- Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Frankston Primary School may be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing Student Engagement, Bullying and Harassment and Student Management Policies.
- At Frankston Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone: in any way that disrupts the learning of others; sending inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls; engaging in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying; capturing video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission; capturing video or images in the school toilets, changing rooms, swimming pools and gyms.

Our full school student mobile phone policy can be found on our school website [here](#).

Further Department of Education information can be found [here](#).



WELLBEING

Wellbeing is so important to all of us and as the Wellbeing Leader at Frankston Primary School I feel very strongly about supporting the staff, students and their families at Frankston Primary School.

Wellbeing always begins with looking after ourselves so that we are able to provide support to those we care about. At Frankston Primary School we have an amazing Wellbeing Team that work alongside me to support our students. Sheila McDonagh, our Disability and Inclusion Specialist and Janelle Doyle, our Specialist Coordinator and Wellbeing Support. Together we want to make a difference for all of the students at Frankston Primary School and are very excited to work together this year to support the wellbeing of everyone. I would like to remind you all of five simple ways to look after your own wellbeing and I hope you take time for each one.



TALK AND LISTEN, BE THERE, FEEL CONNECTED



DO WHAT YOU CAN, ENJOY WHAT YOU DO, MOVE YOUR MOOD



REMEMBER THE SIMPLE THINGS THAT GIVE YOU JOY



EXPERIENCE NEW EXPERIENCES, SEE OPPORTUNITIES, SURPRISE YOURSELF



YOUR TIME, YOUR WORDS, YOUR PRESENCE

Please remember that at different times in all our lives we are faced with challenging circumstances that impact on children. Feel free to contact me at school via phone or pop into the school office to make a time to share any issues that are causing you concern and impacting on your family so that we are able to provide the additional supports your child may need.

Remember our school motto: 'Friends Learning Together'

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE-LET'S DO IT!!

Frankston Primary School is striving to ensure that ALL our students are maintaining acceptable school attendance levels in order to access the education they rightfully deserve.

No matter how hard parents try, some students at times may be reluctant to go to school or families may feel that it is ok to give a child a 'day off'.

Addressing attendance issues promptly and setting up good attendance patterns can lead to future success and can help students feel more engaged and connected at school.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Patterns of late arrival at school or missing classes are early warning signs of disengagement from school
- Each day of absence has an impact on skill development and social connections
- Poor attendance may be associated with future unemployment, criminal activity, substance abuse, and poorer health and life expectancy.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO AVOID POOR ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL?

Generally:

- Act early if you are concerned
- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day, make that the expectation.
- Regular attendance at school sets up good behaviours for regular attendance at future workplaces and other life commitments
- Don't let your child stay home unless genuinely sick. Complaints of headaches or stomach aches may be signs of anxiety
- Reward appropriate behaviour and don't unintentionally reward unwanted behaviour by letting children who stay home have access to their devices and the internet

Daily Routines and sleep

- Help your child maintain daily routines such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Primary school aged children need about 10 to 11 hours sleep.
- You may also need to monitor your child's use of the Internet, mobile phone and TV at night to ensure they are not staying up too late or being disturbed while sleeping
- Consider how your child is sleeping – is their room cool and dark and have all devices, including TVs and mobile phones, been removed?

Talk about school

- Talk to your child. What are their feelings about school? What interests them at school?
- For younger children, talking about the school day shows your interest. Ask simple, positive and specific questions about parts of the day e.g. *What was fun? Who did you play with today? Did you help anyone today?*

Family holidays and appointments

- Try not to schedule hair, dental or medical appointments during school hours. Arrange family holidays during scheduled school holidays so that students don't miss out on classes and feel left behind.
- If it is necessary to be absent from school for an extended period make sure you discuss this with your child's teacher and talk about activities that your child may do whilst they are away to continue to support their learning.

School policies and monitoring attendance

- Familiarise yourself with the school's attendance policy. This can help when trying to reason with a child who is resisting going to school.
- Monitor your child's attendance and school performance. Periodically check with their teachers to find out how things are going. Your child's teacher can tell you exactly what your child's attendance percentage is.

Homework

- If your child wants to stay home to finish homework or an assignment, rather than letting them stay home, expect them to go to school – make attendance the number one priority. You can discuss later with them how they can improve their study habits to meet due dates.

SCHOOL REFUSAL

School refusing children experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school.

School refusal can be very distressing for parents who can find it very difficult to manage and address; it can cause conflict in the home and disrupt routines.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Frankston Primary School wants to work in partnership with ALL parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's teacher and asking for advice and support or organise to speak with Jo Booth (Wellbeing Leader)
- **Remember there is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness**
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term

WHAT DOES FRANKSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL USE TO MEASURE ATTENDANCE?

- Frankston Primary School use a DATA tracking system to identify all student's daily attendance. This data identifies students with increased absences and enables the school to compare individual student's yearly absence rates.
- The school's SMS system allows us to identify why a child is absent.

TO EXPECT IF YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE IS FALLING BEHIND

Frankston Primary School **WANTS** to work with **ALL** parents to ensure that your child is attending school regularly however if your child is identified as needing to improve their school attendance, the following may occur:

- Your child's teacher or the Wellbeing Leader will contact you to discuss your child's absences.
- An Attendance Support Group Meeting will be arranged to formulate an Individual Attendance Improvement Plan with Parents/Carers and Wellbeing Officer/Principal/Classroom Teacher to assist with attendance improvement strategies.
- Ongoing absences despite intervention supports **MUST** be referred to the Education Department Regional Director.

Frankston Primary School will continue to commit to the following to ensure that **ALL** our students are given **EVERY** opportunity to attend school regularly:

- Create a positive school culture and effectively engage with families
- Communicate clear high expectations about learning & attendance
- Establish rewards & incentives for good attendance for our students
- Continually monitor & follow up **ALL** student absence

Let's all avoid these LOST OPPORTUNITIES for our students and remember the data below:

80% attendance rate is the equivalent of missing one day per week or 40 days per year or over 2/12 years P-12

85% = 30 days per year or 2 years P-12

90% = 1 day per fortnight or 20 days per year or over 1 year P-12

95% = 10 days per year and over half a year P-12

DID that just shock you? It makes you think twice about when your child is absent? I am really looking forward to seeing our students maintain fabulous attendance throughout 2024.

Jo Booth (Assistant Principal-Wellbeing Leader)



Friends Learning Together

What's Happening

Please note that this page will be updated each newsletter as new events are scheduled—Camp s and excursion dates will be updated in the new year

Term One 2024

Friday 23rd February	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Wednesday 6th March	Curriculum Day - student free day
Monday 11th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 12th March	Semper Dental visit
Wednesday 13th March	NAPLAN commences
Friday 22nd March	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Monday 25th March	NAPLAN completed
Tuesday 26th March	Parent Teacher Interviews P-2 Harmony Day Recognition
Wednesday 27th	Parent Teacher Interviews 3-6
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of Term 1 School finishes @ 2.30pm Easter Hat Parade

Public holidays during the term break

Friday 29th March	Good Friday
Sunday 31st March	Easter Sunday
Monday 1st April	Easter Monday



Term Two 2024

Monday 15th April	First Day of Term 2
Monday 22nd April	Anzac Day Assembly
Wednesday 24th April	Curriculum Day - student free day
Thursday 25th April	Anzac Day Public Holiday



Friends Learning Together

What's Happening

Term Two 2024 cont...

Monday 29th April	Grade 3-6 Swimming Program
Friday 3rd May	
Friday 10th May	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Monday 13th May	Education Week
Monday 27th May	National Reconciliation Week
Friday 7th June	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Monday 10th June	Kings Birthday Public Holiday
Friday 28th June	Last Day of term 2 School finishes @2.30pm

Term Three 2024

Monday 15th July	First Day of Term 2
Friday 26th July	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Wednesday 13th August	Curriculum Day - student free day
Friday 6th September	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Friday 20th September	Last Day of term 3 School finishes @2.30pm

Term Four 2024

Monday 7th October	First Day Term 4
Friday 18th October	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Friday 29th November	Parent and Carer Association Meeting
Tuesday 5th November	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Friday 20th December	Final Assembly
	Last Day of Term 4 finish @1.30pm





Community News



Frankston Primary School *Friends Learning Together*



COMMUNITY • ASPIRE • OPTIMISM • RESPECT • RESILIENCE • EMPATHY • INCLUSION

ENROL NOW FOR 2025

PREP 2025 OPEN MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS *We look forward to meeting you!*

TERM 1:

- Tues 20th Feb 9.30 – 10.30
- Tues 27th Feb 9.30 – 10.30
- Tues 5th March 9.30 – 10.30
- Thurs 7th March 4 – 5pm
- Tues 19th March 9.30 – 10.30 & 4 – 5pm
- Thurs 21st March 9.30 – 10.30 & 4 – 5pm

TERM 2:

- Thurs 18th April 9.30 – 10.30 & 4 – 5pm
- Tues 23rd April 9.30 – 10.30
- Tues 14th May 9.30 – 10.30
- Thurs 16th May 4 – 5pm
- Tues 21st May 9.30 – 10.30
- Thurs 30th May 4 – 5pm
- Tues 11th June 9.30 – 10.30 & 4 – 5pm

TERM 3:

- Thurs 18th July 9.30 – 10.30
- Tues 23rd July 9.30 – 10.30am
- Thurs 25th July 4 – 5pm

Prep Parent Information Session

6.30 – 7.30pm

- Thurs 2nd May – 2024
- Thurs 6th June – 2024

OR CALL US AND BOOK YOUR PERSONAL TOUR

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www.frankstonps.vic.edu.au