



Achievement, Confidence & Pride

Thursday, 6 August 2020.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Online learning

Thank you to those parents who have provided positive feedback to teachers in relation to online learning. They really appreciate it.

Now that we are in Stage 4 the guidelines are clearer with restrictions in place to ensure the safety of all.

Curriculum Day

The staff worked with Regional Office Education Leaders with a specific focus on using the Fountas and Pinnell Reading Assessment Tool. The aim of this is to achieve greater consistency in teacher judgements. We also looked at how to conduct Guided reading sessions online. The afternoon session gave staff time to work on our School Wide Positive Behaviours AIP priority goal.

Parent teacher Interviews

Parent teacher Interviews bookings close tomorrow so if you have not made appointments you might still have time. That day will be a student free day and there will be no onsite learning or online learning. Parents who need their child supervised on that day can contact OSHC who will be providing a holiday program.

New Build

We are having weekly meetings with the architects to confirm the Master Plan for the school and to develop the plans for the new facilities and refurbishment.

COVID 19

There appears to be an increasing level of anxiety with both adults and children in relation to COVID19 so just a reminder to check in with your children to see how they are coping with the COVID news and strategies that have been put in place.

If you or any member of your family has had a COVID19 test, please self-isolate until your results are confirmed negative.

Approved absences

Whenever a student is absent parents do need to enter the absence on Compass or inform the office. Students are requested to log onto the computer prior to 9.30 to indicate to their teacher they are engaged in their learning. If they do not log on they are marked as absent and you will receive a text notification to say your child is absent.

As many of you may have noticed – the unapproved absences appear on the end of semester reports. In the near future the school will be sending home notices listing the dates of unapproved absences for you to consider and approve as the Department requires follow up on student attendance.

Dr Bette Prange

Acting Principal

Inspirational Quote:

“Challenges are what make life interesting. Overcoming them is what makes life meaningful. – Joshua J. Marine



IMPORTANT NOTICE

In accordance with Stage 4 Restrictions, Moonee Valley Council has made the difficult decision to close all School Crossings within the municipality from **Thursday, 6 August 2020** (for the locations which have remained open during Stage 3 restrictions, these locations will now close).

Therefore, tomorrow mornings shifts **will run** however, tomorrows afternoon shifts **will not**.

Parent Teacher Conferences Term 3 2020

This year Parent Teacher Conferences will take place over the phone on Tuesday 11th of August from 9am – 6:30pm.

This will be a Pupil Free Day and teachers will not be available to run their online classes.

Compass is NOW OPEN for parents to make parent teacher conference appointments. If you are unsure of your username and/or password to log in to Compass, please contact the school as soon as possible.

Booking slots are for a 10 minute conference and 5 minute changeover time for teachers between families.

Conference bookings on Compass will close on Friday 7th August at 4pm.

Specialist teachers

Specialist teachers Nick Boffa (Italian), Laura Farrell (Visual Arts: Grade Prep, Grade One, 2B & 2D) Michelle Portelli (Visual Arts: Grades 3-6, 2A & 2C) and John Cleary (PE) will also be available for conferences on Tuesday 11th August.

Information for Parents about what happens if a school has a confirmed COVID19 case.

Please note we **do not** have a confirmed case of COVID 19! This is just to let you know what will occur if we do have a confirmed case to assist in your understanding of the process the school would be required to undertake if there was a confirmed case of Covid-19. This includes what information would and would not be shared due to privacy laws.

If a school is directly impacted by a confirmed case of coronavirus the Department will work with DHHS to confirm necessary actions for the school.



Schools are required to:

- Notify the DET through the Emergency Management Service if a confirmed case has been notified to the Principal of the school
- Notify the Department of Health and Human Services Covid-19 line to inform and be directed for next steps if a student or staff member:
 - is a confirmed case
 - has been in close contact with a confirmed case
- Work directly with the DET Regional Team to implement directed process

The Department of Health and Human Services defines 'close contact' as someone who has either:

- had at least 15 minutes of face-to face contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- shared a closed space for more than two hours with someone who is a confirmed case.

If there is a positive case that will impact the school, DHHS and DET will confirm actions required. This may include a temporary closure of the school while an investigation and contact tracing occurs. DHHS may recommend a deep clean of the school. The school will remain closed until cleaning is completed and cleared, with the school made operational as soon as possible.

Communications

The DET will support the school in providing appropriate and authorised communications for the community. Please note, the community will not receive details of any individual case and respect for the privacy and confidentiality of the situation is required by law.

It can be challenging during a process such as this when DHHS and DET are working behind the scenes and there is no detailed communication coming to the community. We would hope that you respect the school's position in following the direction of DET and DHHS, knowing that questions may not be answered. There is a parent hotline for your use if this situation was to occur at Moonee Ponds PS.

By sharing this process, hopefully families understand that although they may not know every detail of what is happening, the situation is being managed and the process is being followed in line with guidelines and privacy laws. For further information please see the parent link to the DET website:

www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/Pages/Managingcoronavirus.aspx



Road Safety by Grade Prep

In Grade Prep we are learning all about road safety. Preps enjoyed making and drawing cars and explaining what keeps us safe when we are in a car.

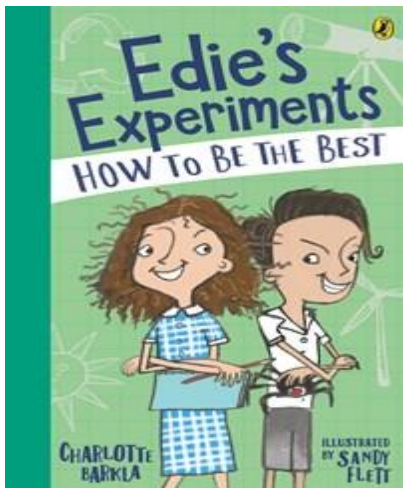




Book Reviews – Tried and Treasured

Edie's Experiments. How to be the best.

Written by Charlotte Barka and Illustrated by Sandy Flett



Edie loves science experiments and conservation. Her heart is really in the right place but not everyone appreciates her efforts. Edie and Annie B. team-up to win the 5/6 Science Eco competition at school but Dean Starlight, the new boy at school arrives back from the Science Academy and he is determined to win the competition at all costs. There are many antics, all relatable to young readers, including some situations that will ignite the imagination. This is a wonderful story about believing in yourself and having a go. Children from 8 to 12 would be amused and find this Book relatable.

By Liz Oruba

Looking to the future 2.

by: Morrigan R

Welcome back to Looking to the future! Today we will be talking about food production in our future cities and what that could look like. So, let's talk about urban farming. If you read my last article, you will know about rooftop gardens and their potential to house vegetable patches. However, there are other ways to grow food especially in cities, and these could change the way our cities look (and themselves) forever!

So, what am I talking about? Vertical farming. Now, you are probably thinking 'vertical farming? You mean, like upright farming? How is that possible?' or something along those lines. It is quite simple, really. You've heard of green roofs... now see vegetables growing inside of skyscrapers in the city! Fresh locally grown produce, and sustainable to boot, right in the middle of the city. Of course, these skyscraper farms are only in the testing phase at the moment, but imagine a future where all the food needed in the city is grown right there alongside the office workers and schools.



So what is else is special about vertical farms? Vertical farming creates 100 times the amount of food, while using 40% less energy, producing 80% less food waste, and using 99% less water than in traditional farming methods. Vertical farming will feed the Earth's growing population, as well as preserving our planet's precious resources and land.

Vertical farming can be done in buildings with another purpose, or it may be in abandoned or newly constructed buildings and fill the space completely. There are many types of vertical farming, all with the same result. Vertical farming is definitely on the path to a greener, more sustainable future that we can all look forward to.

So, you have come to the end of my third looking to the future instalment. Join me next time for Looking to the future 4: Biochar. Have a good day!

"Urban farming is not only possible, it is crucial. But it can't be like the farming techniques of yore."

Homaro Cantu