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**Newsletter**  
**November 13<sup>th</sup> 2019**

*Growth Honesty and Trust Respect Connectedness Inclusiveness Fun*

## Dates to Remember

### NOVEMBER

#### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>

School Council  
@5.15pm

#### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

Last Swimming session  
12.45 – 1.30

#### Friday 15<sup>th</sup>

Bairnsdale Secondary  
College transition

#### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>

Sporting Schools –  
Drama 3.20-4.20pm

#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Kinder Transition 9-11am

#### Monday 25<sup>th</sup>

MARC Van  
Please return books

#### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>

Sporting Schools –  
Drama 3.20-4.20pm

#### Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>

Jump Rope for Heart

#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

Kinder Transition  
9 - 1.30pm

### DECEMBER

#### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Nagle Orientation Day

#### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>

Kinder Information Night  
@ 6.30pm

#### Friday 6<sup>th</sup>

Kinder Transition  
9 - 1.30pm

#### Monday 9<sup>h</sup>

MARC Van

#### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>

Grade 6 Orientation  
Kinder Transition  
9 - 3.20pm

As we now enter bushfire season and, in light of the recent events happening interstate, it is timely to revisit our emergency management plan in relation to processes we have in place in the unlikely event of our school being impacted by bushfires. A detailed outline of our processes is included later in the newsletter. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact us at school.

#### Swimming

Tomorrow is the final session of our swimming program. During the course of the program all children have made significant gains/improvements in a number of areas. For some it has been about becoming more confident in and around water while for others it has been about learning new or refining their swimming techniques. While the program provides invaluable opportunities and experiences for students especially heading into Summer, it is not a guarantee that your child will be safe around water. Constant, vigilant supervision is paramount to keeping kids safe.

#### Remembrance Day

Monday at 11am the whole school came together for a minutes silence to pay respect to all those that have died serving our country. We were joined by a member of the Bairnsdale RSL who read the oath and presented the school with a wreath to place at the foot of our flagpoles. Thankyou to everyone for displaying enormous respect by standing completely still and silent for the entire time which can be very challenging for some!

#### Junior Rotary Community Awards

Congratulations to Emily, Tyla and Olly who received their rotary certificates last night at a special presentation held by the Mitchell River Rotary Club. Thankyou to their parents for supporting them through the many tasks that need completing during the course of the year. Hopefully it is a memory they will have for a long time into the future.

#### Bullying Survey

Thank you to those families who have returned the survey to school. A reminder that all surveys are due back by this Friday. We will collate all responses and feedback and use this data to assist us in decision making around our Bullying Prevention work in the future.

#### Transition Programs

This Friday our grade 6 students attending Bairnsdale Secondary College next year head to the college for their transition day where they will be introduced to some of the staff, shown around the college and participate in some activities. We wish them well.

Next Friday, 22nd our Prep transition program begins. We will welcome 13 new preps into our school in 2020 and we are all very excited to meet them for the first time and begin to get to know them and for them to get to know us!

Kind Regards,

*Sue Laque*

Principal



*At Nicholson Primary School we acknowledge the Gunai-Kurnai people,  
the traditional owners of the land our school is built on.*

*We pay respects to the elders past, present and emerging  
and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people*



## Classroom News

### Grade Prep/1

In literacy we have been finding the problem and solution in stories. The students have been working on their reading goals with some great results!

In maths we have been solving open ended word problems. Last week the class learnt about probability by doing activities relating to Cup Day.

### Grade 2/3

In reading students are learning strategies to help them make meaning from words they have not seen before such as topic specific vocabulary used in non-fiction texts.

In writing students are working on spelling words with the spelling choice 'er' as in fern and saying and segmenting words into sound groups (phonemes) to assist when spelling unknown words. Students are beginning to explore writing devices used to create rhyming poetry.

In numeracy students are learning to compare and order length and area, capacity and mass using familiar metric units.

### Grade 3/4

The grade 3s and 4s had an excellent time at camp Coolamatong last week. We were very lucky that the weather wasn't really hot, really cold or really wet! They got to experience many different outdoor activities including canoeing, raft building, bush cooking and a trip on a boat.

They also did an activity called Geocaching where they used a GPS and some clues to find hole punches hidden around the camp. It was quite a challenge to follow the GPS and the clues. Mrs Clague's group made her walk up a big hill before realising that they had to be down near the shore. My group tried to take me through the scrub at the edge of the lake where I would not fit!

We have started brainstorming all the different things we could include in a recount of our camp experiences, and one of the things that they wanted to talk about was eating! The food was definitely a hit, and kept everyone going.



### Grade 5/6

It has been a busy in the 5/6 classroom. In Readers Workshop we have continued our understanding of 'Why good readers ask questions?' We have used our class text 'Hatchet' and Independent reading texts to identify and discuss questions we have after each workshop. In addition to this, I have reintroduced 'What readers do to make sure they understand what they are reading'. This will be our major focus for the remainder of this week and next week.

Writers Workshop has focused around putting the final touches to our DOXA Camp recounts and working on completing a recount of our recent Greening Australia excursion.

Our maths sessions are reviewing and revising the areas covered over the course of the year. This week students have been interpreting data sets, revising the process followed to calculate the Mean, Mode, Median and Range. The follow on to this will be the interpretation of data presented in graphs as well as constructing our own graphs to present data.

## School procedures for the bushfire season



Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter, SMS and Skoolbag App. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located. All bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters

### ***What can parents do?***

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, [by checking our website [insert URL] and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan. Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the CFA website at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

# CAMP COOLAMATONG



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