

# Omeo Primary School Newsletter

Omeo Primary School  
PO Box 40, Omeo 3898  
Phone 51591313

Principal - Jeff Wilson  
Email: [omeo.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:omeo.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
Website: <https://www.omeops.vic.edu.au>



**Wednesday 7th February 2024**

## Calendar dates

**Wednesdays 2:45:** Assembly in the Music Room, all parents welcome

### February

Swimming program - 8th, 13th, 15th, 16th.

**REMINDER - BROAD-BRIMMED HATS MUST BE WORN TERM 1 - Please pack one in your child's bag.**

**March** Smile Squad (Dental Van); NAPLAN

## Birthdays



**Brendan - 5th of February**

**Cody - 6th February**

## From our Principal

Dear Community,

It was around this time last year I thought about how privileged I am to be able to lead and work in such a wonderful community. After a lightning trip to Melbourne on the weekend, I am reminded of how much more balance we achieve in life here in Omeo.

I would like to write a little about the fantastic staff at Omeo. All of our staff give so much extra time to the school, it comes from a great care for and confidence in Omeo Primary School. Our staff have an abundance of kindness, which is shown in equal measure by our fantastic students. In my first two weeks as substantive principal I couldn't be more excited about the years ahead.

The hidden work of the school is done by our fantastic education support staff.

Andrea in the office is our business manager who in three days a week manages Human Resources, finance, administration, banking, mail, email, Student Resource Package, salaries, absences, calendars and well lots more.

Ashleigh Pendergast works with our teachers to deliver Respectful Relationships, facilitates student leadership, helps teachers with preparation, supports individual students in class, comes on camps and sleepovers. Occasionally mows the lawn, prepares awards. Helps students with performances and works with the student welfare team to make sure we have a holistic approach to support.

Frank, our maintenance manager keeps our facilities in check, looks after Occupational Health and Safety, builds and fixes, mows and whipper snips, supports programs such as swimming and mountain biking. Always has the kettle hot for recess, looks after lunch orders, trims trees, inspects properties. Monitors the asset information management system. All in a half time allocation.

**P.E. :** Your new P.E. teacher is Jeff Wilson. Please ensure your children wear runners to school on **Fridays**. Cowboy boots, sandals, etc. are unsuitable. Children will have an hour P.E. each week rather than 45 minutes.

**Indonesian Language Study:** This year as part of our curriculum we will be starting Indonesian Language Study. This is in partnership with the Victorian School of Languages and Omeo PS. Our children and teachers will work online with an Indonesian Language teacher and will have a follow up half hour with me. I look forward to saying 'selamat datang' (Welcome) as parents and family arrive in the mornings.

**Swimming:** We were unable to commence our swimming program on Tuesday due to the cool weather. I have recently completed an intensive pool lifeguard training in order to be the most vigilant I can in maintaining student safety. I look forward to watching our students improve over the course of the program. Thanks also for the return of notes.

**SMILE SQUAD:** The free dental service will be attending Omeo Primary School on 18/03/2024 to 22/03/2024 and 25/03/2024 to 28/03/2024.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program. This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

**There is an online QR code for consent.** If you wish to complete the consent form in hard copy please contact the school.

Please be aware that during check ups, the Smile Squad Team may call from an unfamiliar number.

Please see the attached information sheet.

**NAPLAN:** The national testing program will commence in March. Please remember this is a once a year test that students do every two years. It is not the only measure of learning. We are striving to make sure that students can approach the test with an attitude of doing the best they can - comfortable testing conditions; technical readiness and understanding how tests work.

Thanks to all the parents who have dropped in and said hello. We will be scheduling a parent information meeting and community event in the coming weeks.

**Digitising our school procedures:** Last week in the newsletter we mentioned that we are moving to digital format. We will also be available to help parents / families access the information. Please log into UEducateUs as this will be the main platform. For fast messaging we have been using Class Dojo and UEducateUS. We will be modernising our school website this term too.

**COVID - 19:** As there is Covid in the community, please be vigilant, so we can protect those who may become very ill. We have increased our measures around hygiene. We have plenty of kits at the school if you feel like you need to test.

In the coming weeks I will feature some staff profiles, just so we can know our staff a little better.

Have a wonderful week,

Jeff Wilson

### **Staff Profiles: Liz Harris**

Hello to students, families and the local community. I am delighted to begin my graduate teaching career here at Omeo Primary School.

I moved to East Gippsland more than 30 Years ago. I worked in several schools within the Shire as an Education Support before returning to study Primary Teaching.

I look forward to getting to know each of the students. Students will be able to express their individual creativity through their work. They will have many opportunities to experiment with an array of material and techniques as they develop their art practice and knowledge.

I will see you around at school and this lovely town. best wishes Liz

### **From the Office**

**School bank details CBA: BSB: 063-857; Account No: 10006685.** Please mark your transaction with family name and what it is for eg: Shepherd Fees 22

Attached to the Newsletter today is a copy of our **schools Parent Payment Policy**. The fees are voluntary. The school, as explained in this policy, uses these fees to provide a range of experiences for our students as well as resource them to tackle the work done in the classroom. There are a variety of ways in which fees can be paid. Please read these carefully. The school looks forward to having strong support from our families so we can continue to provide the best for students. Please speak with Andrea or Jeff if you have any questions.

**CSEF:** This stands for Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund. To be eligible for the \$125 for each child, paid into your school account, 'a parent or legal guardian MUST be the holder of an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card, Pensioner Concession Card or holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card'. Families who are eligible and have accessed it last year, please check that you are still eligible. These families will be automatically rolled over. Please see Andrea if you are a new parent and feel you are eligible.

## Privacy Policy Reminder

Annual privacy reminder for our school community. Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice. Privacy Policy Link: <https://www.omeops.vic.edu.au/assets/2022/files/policies/privacy.pdf>

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy is a new policy and is in draft ready for school council approval. It describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn. Parents are asked annually to sign digital permission forms.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education] safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education], please contact the school. For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents: Here - <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/Schools/PrivacyPolicy-ForParents-English.pdf>

## Student of the Week



This week the Junior room congratulates:

**Levi Fyfe**

For his fantastic organisational skills in the classroom. Thanks Levi for sorting out our stationary and making sure it is ready for us to use. This helps us be ready for learning.

This week the Senior room congratulates:

**Holly Mitchell**

For encouraging and supporting students of all ages to participate in lunchtime netball activities in the undercover area. Well done Holly for being so helpful and coaching future potential players!

## From our Classrooms

### Junior Class News

This week the junior class have been thinking about the reading and writing workshops we will be beginning after swimming. We have been watching videos of workshops in action, reflecting on them and deciding what the workshops will look, feel and sound like in our classroom. Together we have been creating anchor charts to reflect this.

In numeracy we have been learning some maths games to allow students to work independently straight after recess on games of choice. All year levels have been completing a 'Daily Review' on numeracy concepts. This involves daily counting and skip counting practice, before and after concepts, addition and subtraction facts, sequencing days and months and learning concepts of time.

Yesterday I sent home QR codes which allow children to access their Class Dojo accounts from home. Some families also received a link to connect to our 2024 class. We also visited the library on Monday, please ensure books are returned on Monday to allow students to borrow again. We are excited to be commencing our Indonesian sessions today and meeting our teacher Olivia online.

Many thanks, Kate Freestone 😊  
[kate.freestone@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kate.freestone@education.vic.gov.au)

### Senior Class News

Our class has been very busy learning about our reading and writing workshops and beginning to implement these in our learning. Students have been writing recounts of a key event on their school holidays and some have begun using our new 'ground, grass, sky' higher stakes books to write their good copies.

Within maths we have begun our place value unit with some revision using the place value blocks and creating numbers. On Monday we completed our place value pretest for our Top 10 maths and have begun setting individual goals within mathematics.

Are you connected to our Class Dojo? If not please contact me ASAP and I will connect you. This will be a way that we share learning and I aim to share photographs of our experiences as I can.

As always, please feel free to contact me as required.

Gemma Rendell

[gemma.rendell@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:gemma.rendell@education.vic.gov.au)



Smile Squad is coming to this school.

Dear Omeo families,

The Smile Squad team from RFDS are coming to our school 18/03/2024 to 22/03/2024 and 25/03/2024 to 28/03/2024.

Smile Squad is the Victorian Government free school dental program. This means all students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services, and treatment at school.

How to access free dental care

We need your consent before we can provide services. Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian.

Sign up to Smile Squad at:

<https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the below QR code:



Please complete and submit the consent form by 11/03/2024.

Minimal paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one.

The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is available in 13 languages.

### Smile Squad dental packs

All children deserve a healthy smile, and the Smile Squad free school dental program is working hard to help make sure this happens.

Your child(ren) will soon receive a free dental pack to bring home. The dental pack contains a toothbrush, full sized toothpaste, and an oral health brochure. Please take the time to read the brochure. It's full of helpful hints and tips to help your whole family eat well, drink well and clean well – for life.

### Standard strength toothpaste

Smile Squad provides standard strength fluoride toothpaste that is generally used by ages six and over, unless recommended by a dental or trained health professional. If your child is under six, a different toothpaste will be provided.

Do I need to attend my child's appointment?

No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and appointments will be available after school hours if you wish to attend with your child.

The RFDS Smile Squad look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,

Tracey

Smile Squad

INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

## Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



### Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

**Tuesday, 13 February 2024**

10:30 am to 4 pm

In front of the courthouse, Day Avenue

OMEQ

For more information, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice)



Services  
Australia

[servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice)



## Community Information



ALL PRE-SCHOOL  
FAMILIES INCLUDING  
BABIES ARE  
INVITED!



# OMELO RHYME TIME



WITH  
TRACY KENNEDY

HELD AT THE  
EAST GIPPSLAND  
SHIRE COUNCIL  
OFFICE

10.00 - 10.45AM

NO COST!

DATES FOR TERM 1, 2024  
FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY  
FRIDAY 1ST MARCH  
FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

CONTACT ROWENA TURNER  
SCHOOLS AS HUBS COORDINATOR HIGH  
COUNTRY  
0438331162  
S.R.TURNER@SKYMESH.COM.AU



Uniting



ALL PRE-SCHOOL  
FAMILIES INCLUDING  
BABIES ARE  
INVITED!

# KINDER GYM

WITH CINDY MASS

10.30 - 11.30AM

HELD AT THE OMELO HALL  
EVERY ALTERNATING  
MONDAY

DATES FOR TERM 1, 2024

5TH FEBRUARY  
19TH FEBRUARY  
4TH MARCH  
18TH MARCH



CONTACT ROWENA TURNER  
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Uniting

# DANCE DANCE DANCE

MONDAY: BALLET 7-13YRS: 3.45-5PM

MONDAY: TAP 7-13YRS: 5.15-6.30PM

TUESDAY: COMBINATION 2-6YRS 3.45-4.45PM

TUESDAY: BALLET 2-6YRS 5-6PM

WEDNESDAY: ADULTS 6.30-7.45

COMMENCING FEBRUARY

\$12.80 PER SESSION - TERM 1 (8 SESSIONS) = \$102.40

PAYMENTS FOR THE LESSONS MUST BE PAID BY 8TH OF FEB  
FOR YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE. FULL TERM PAYMENT  
REQUIRED. NO REFUNDS ETC FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

JACKIE: 0484764185



ALL PRE-SCHOOL  
FAMILIES INCLUDING  
BABIES ARE  
INVITED!



# OMELO PLAYTIME GROUP

WITH CINDY MASS

10.30 - 11.30AM



JOIN CINDY FOR FREE PLAYTIME  
SESSIONS WITH PLAY-  
ACTIVITIES SET UP FOR YOUR  
CHILD TO EXPLORE!  
IT'S A GREAT PLACE TO MEET  
OTHER PARENTS.



HELD AT THE OMELO  
HALL

EVERY  
ALTERNATING  
TUESDAY  
STARTING 6TH  
FEBRUARY

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Uniting