



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the 2021 school year. I hope everyone has had a relaxing and restful summer vacation with family, friends, and loved ones.

Our staff have been busy planning over the past week to ensure we provide outstanding curriculum programs for the children. I am looking forward to a fabulous year ahead.

I would particularly like to welcome students and families who are new to the Silverton Primary School community and look forward to getting to know you and your child/ren over the next few weeks.

Staffing News

We welcome a number of new Silverton staff in 2021; Foundation L - Miss Natalie Pike, 12E - Miss Bailey Marsh, 34 E - Miss Katelin Smith, 56O - Miss Courtney Grigg, LOTE - Miss Mengdi Yu, Sports Ready - Alex MacKenzie and Education Support - Mrs Olivia Choi. We also welcome back Catherine Ham and Lisa Donnellan, Julie Fletcher and Shona Brooks from parental leave.

Tutoring Initiative

One of our top priorities for the year is to respond to the disruption of 2020 by working to ensure that all students who need additional assistance to 'catch up' on learning that they may have missed, get tailored and targeted help through the new Tutor Learning Initiative, led by Mrs Karen Wheeler. The additional resources made available through the significant new funding directed to this program provide us with an unprecedented opportunity to meet the learning needs of our students.

COVIDSafe

While it is wonderful news that we return to on-site learning from day one this year, we all remain vigilant in maintaining COVIDSafe environments. Actions such as staying home when unwell, performing regular hand hygiene, wearing a mask and maintaining adult physical distance are simple measures, but are of the utmost importance.

DET advise that due to ongoing COVID restrictions parents are unable to remain for longer than 15 minutes unless officially signed in for contact tracing purposes. Therefore can I please ask that you don't enter the courtyard at the end of the day until 3.10pm.

At this stage no parents are allow inside any learning spaces without an official appointment or invitation by the teachers.

CAMPS

This year we are planning a Grade 5, three day camp to Wombat Corner located in Emerald from the 26th to 28th April.

During week 4, on the 16th and 18th February, we will host the Grade 1 to 6 Parent to Teacher Meetings where you are invited to schedule an **online** appointment so that you can inform the class teacher of

any relevant background information that might be pertinent to his/her learning. Please note that this is not an interview to discuss progress or academic achievement. Appointments will be available soon.

HOUSE DAY – 2021 Fun day ☺

Next Friday on the 12th February the children are encouraged to dress in their house colours and bring along a change of clothes.

#SSS Well Being Program

When your child comes home wearing a #SSS wrist band, please have a conversation with them. Why did you receive a wrist band today? Who gave you the wrist band?

School Hats

Sun Smart School Policy requires that your child wears a blue school hat each day between the 1st of September till the end of April. Please ensure your child has one, preferably named, at school each day. Students who do not have a hat will be asked to play under cover.

Student Accidents Insurance - Reminder from Department of Education

Parents/carers are responsible for any medical expenses (including ambulance costs) incurred if their child is injured or requires medical treatment or an ambulance while at school, or participating in a school activity.

Parents may not be called if an ambulance is required, until after an ambulance is called, depending on the situation.

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/claims-property-damage-and-medical-expenses/policy>

Personal Goods brought to school at the 'Owners' risk - Reminder from Department of Education

Silverton Primary School understands that staff and/or students may sometimes like to bring items of personal property to school.

The Department of Education and Training does not have insurance for personal property of staff, students and visitors. Silverton Primary School does not take responsibility for items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school or during school activities. Damage to personal property brought to school is the responsibility of the owner of that property.

Silverton Primary school encourages staff and students not to bring items of value to school, or to obtain appropriate insurance for such items.

We are so excited to welcome you back to school and for the opportunities that the 2021 school year brings. I wish you all well for the year ahead and look forward to continuing this journey with you and your family.

Amanda