



Issue 1- 4th February 2022

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Welcome back,

It is great to have students back at Whittlesea Primary School for 2022. Welcome to our new Foundation students and to families joining our community for the first time. Our goal has to be to return to normal onsite operations as much as possible and embrace what is most important – connections, relationships and rich learning experiences.



CASEA Program

The CASEA (CYMHS and Schools Early Action) program is part of Austin Health and is partnering with our school this year. CASEA has been developed to help children understand and express emotions, and to be better at problem solving and getting along with others. Development of these skills has been shown to enhance student capacity to achieve academically. The CASEA team will be working at the school and classroom levels, as well as at the small group level

The program is free for your family and also for the school.

The small group part of the program has been designed for children in Years 1 and 2. Parents from these year levels will be asked to complete a short questionnaire that will help us identify families who might benefit from the program. Invitations to participate in the group programs will follow.

We are looking forward to our partnership with CASEA commencing.

If you would like more information please contact:

Name: Rosalin Shafik-Eid, Acting CASEA Team Leader

Contact telephone: 9496 3620

Website: www.austin.org.au/casea

Vaccinations

It's been really fantastic to see such excitement around the return to school and we want to keep it that way. A crucial part of that is getting as many students vaccinated as possible.

Alongside ventilation and other vital COVIDSafe steps such as regular rapid antigen testing, supporting as many students as possible to be vaccinated will help make our school as safe as possible.

Bookings for children aged 5 to 11 to receive the paediatric Pfizer vaccine are open and we encourage parents and carers to get your child vaccinated, if you haven't already done so. The Pfizer vaccine is safe and recommended for children. The vaccine will help protect your child from getting sick from COVID-19, help to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and help ensure kids can have more time at school and playing with their friends.

OFFICE HOURS

Office opening hours
8.30am- 4pm

CALENDAR

February 11	5/6 Interschool Sport Commences
February 16	District Swimming Carnival
March 7	Whole School Photo Day

Vaccinations for children aged 5-11 years old are delivered at 2 appointments, 8 weeks apart. Children with specific medical vulnerabilities can access their second dose 3 weeks after their first dose.

If you'd like more information about this, you can read a recent statement from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI): <https://www.health.gov.au/news/atagi-update-following-weekly-covid-19-meeting-19-january-2022>

To book an appointment You can book at your local GP or pharmacy: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/booking>

You can also book at a family-friendly vaccination centre by calling the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398.

You can also make vaccination centre bookings for your children online, though you will need to use an email address that has not been used in the system before: <https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au/>
Helping children to get their vaccination

Vaccination centres understand that children may feel anxious about vaccination or have other support needs. A range of options are available to help children get vaccinated. Please discuss your child's needs with the vaccination centre when you book an appointment.

Appointments are also available at Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisations.

👉 Find out more about vaccination for kids: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-information-children-and-teenagers>

Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to all our families and a special welcome to our foundation students and new students joining us for 2022.



“As I opened my car door, the smell of fresh polyester cotton and leather filled the air. It’s hot, like a sweltering sauna, the humidity is high and my hair, unfortunately, is flat. No amount of hair spray is holding it in place today. I walk around the corner, noise follows me, in every direction, I’m not sure where to look first. Are they talking to me? Are they following me? These faces are familiar but somehow older, taller. As I amble along, I find myself thinking, I’ve been here before, almost like déjà vu. But it’s not. Fumbling for my keys, I unlock the door.”

Last Monday our staff spent their day learning about the Seven Steps to Writing Success. This program provides writing workshops that empower teachers to inspire their students to improve their writing skills using seven core elements. One key focus for the day was Step 2: Sizzling Starts. A ‘sizzling start’ aims to draw the reader in, capturing their attention so that they are excited to keep reading. Perhaps you noted this was how I chose to start my newsletter piece today? As we continue to develop our writing program at Whittlesea Primary School, our teachers will utilise these seven steps to create vibrant, engaging writing lessons to develop confident writers.

In this week’s article we have included the Epic! class codes for 2022. Epic! Is a digital library that students can access from home. It is available for students to access during school hours. You can access your child’s class profile using the codes below. Here is the link for Epic!
<https://www.getepic.com/students>

Class	Epic Code	Class	Epic Code
Foundation G	eca2176	3/4 C	dmv1103
Foundation M	mdc9381	3/4 DM	nrn0057
Foundation P	iyv8378	3/4 DL	ted6790
1/2 B	zgj4350	3/4 MW	aew2321
1/2 E	pzx9881	3/4 W	ayy5791
1/2 JA	nka6521	5/6 G	isb5798
1/2 M	hic2577	5/6 P	kyd2391
1/2 P	Wxi1660	5/6 RM	bsp0465
		5/6 T	vkk7922
		5/6 V	njr0208

Just a reminder that the 2022 booklist stationery portal managed by PaperChase OfficeNational is due to **close at midnight tonight**. If you have not purchased your child/ren’s stationery for 2022, and would like to order with PaperChase OfficeNational, please follow the details in the Compass notification sent out yesterday to submit your order.

Well done to our students on settling back into their classroom routines. It has been a fabulous start to the year and we are looking forward to an exciting year of learning and working with you and your children.

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal



BIRTHDAY LIST

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

1st January

Franky 5/6RM

2nd January

Verity 012JA

3rd January

Harper 00M

5th January

Kaden 1/2P

Ryker 3/4L

Callum 3/4MW

7th January

Brodie 1/2JA

8th January

Ryan 1/2E

10th January

Lola 1/2P

Emma 3/4C

Michael 5/6P

12th January

Tyler 00M

Kruz 3/4C

Mackenzie 3/4MW

13th January

Noah 1/2E

17th January

Taj 1/2JA

20th January

Riley 3/4W

22nd January

Henry 1/2M

23rd January

Tai 1/2P

24th January

Ava 1/2B

25th January

Monica 3/4W

26th January

Eden 00P

Grace 5/6V

27th January

Henry 1/2M

Rebekah 1/2B

Rhys 3/4D

28th January

Bentleigh 1/2M

Heidi 5/6T

Audrey 5/6T

29th January

Emerson 1/2E

30th January

Cadence 1/2M

Levi 3/4D

2nd February

Rilee 00P

3rd February

Charlie 1/2E

Xavier 3/4MW

SCHOOL PRIVACY POLICY

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 the school's collection statement, found on our website [Whittlesea Primary School \(whittleseaps.vic.edu.au](http://Whittlesea Primary School (whittleseaps.vic.edu.au)

For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy - information for parents](#). This information also available in nine community languages.

UP COMMUNITY CARD FUNDRAISING

United Petrol have teamed up with Whittlesea Primary School assist with the schools fundraising. With the Whittlesea Primary School UP Community card, you'll receive a 2 cents per litre discount at participating United service stations and a 2 cents per litre rebate will be provided to Whittlesea Primary School. So this means you'll enjoy great savings on your fuel, whilst supporting Whittlesea Primary School when you fill up at a participating United service station.

Register here: <https://www.unitedpetroleum.com.au/fuel-discount-cards/up-community/whittlesea-primary-school/>

You now have the choice of a digital or plastic fuel discount card.





FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



DIY Home Cleaning Products



Whittlesea Community Garden

Come along & make 3 all natural, non-toxic, cleaning items to use at home and help our environment

Time: 10.30am

Date: Thursday 17th February 2022

Venue: Whittlesea Community Garden

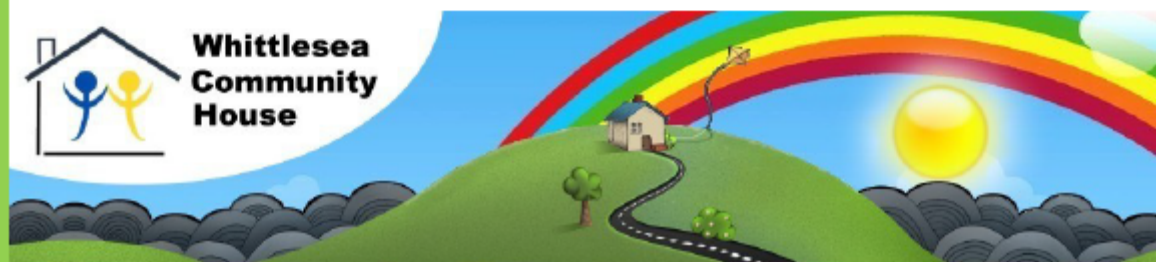
Laurel St, Whittlesea (next door to the library)



Numbers are limited & you must register your attendance by 10 February. Email communitygarden@whittleseach.com.au or call 9716 3361.



**Whittlesea
Community
House**



"Changing the pattern of your life through learning and community connection"

YPRL WiFi Hotspot Program

FREE!
60 GB per
month

Yarra Plenty Regional Library is offering free Wi-Fi Hotspots to help students and families connect to the internet.



What is a Hotspot?

A Hotspot is a device that lets you connect to the internet over Wi-Fi.

You can use it with a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone.



Who is eligible for a Hotspot?

To receive a Hotspot, you must have no access to the internet in your home.

You or your children must be studying in primary school, high school or university.



How do you apply for a Hotspot?

contact
Dean Marando
at
Whittlesea
Community
Connections:

dmarando@whittleseacc.org.au

or by phone
9401 6640



yprl.vic.gov.au

