



# Grade 4 Newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> June 2017

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## IMPORTANT DATES -TERM 2

- **Queens' Birthday**  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June
- **Musica Viva Taikoz**  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June
- **Morning Coffee**  
After assembly, Friday  
16<sup>th</sup> June
- **3 Way Conferences**  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June,  
4pm-7pm  
Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 49am  
– 12 midday  
Make bookings online for  
each student on Sentral  
parent portal.
- **End of Term 2**  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June.  
**Early pickup 2.30pm**
- **Grade 34 Camp**  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August  
to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August,  
2017. YMCA Recreation  
Camp, Mt Evelyn

## Dear Parents,

We have had such a busy and wonderful time finishing and sharing our Hero's Journeys. It has been fulfilling to watch the children facing the challenge of writing a long and detailed story, editing and publishing it. This challenge has been very difficult for some but the feeling of accomplishment as they present their finished story is just sensational.

We have had some sickness spreading around with coughs, sniffles and sore tummies. Some boxes of tissues would be appreciated and please use Sentral or a note to let us know about absences.

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## **Wet Weather Days and STEM in the Wetlands**

### **Warm coats and dry socks.**

We go outside to play even if it is cold and/or drizzling. Students must wear appropriate clothes to school for the winter and have a waterproof jacket for playtimes. We know how much it benefits the children to get out in the fresh air.

On **Wednesdays** our work in the Wetlands continues so please dress appropriately and be prepared for a bit of mud and wet weather. We have so much exploring, working and learning to do. We don't want students to miss out because of unsuitable attire.

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### Literacy

We have been writing about the hero's journey which is pretty much just a big story that has lots of little problems and then there is a big problem. We have also been reading a lot, looking for the Hero's Journey in our reading. We have just started doing our spelling words again on Wednesday.

We have also been doing some cooking science experiments and have been writing about our predictions and observations.

### Numeracy

In numeracy we have been working on addition and subtraction strategies and doing problem solving. We have also been doing some math testing.

### STEM

In STEM we have been learning about sugar gliders and we have been working on making the wetlands safer. We will become responsible for one area each, and will be measuring and recording the life forms in our areas, as well as working out the capacity of the water pond in the wetlands.

### Music

In Music we have been leaning how to play recorder and have been improving our skills. We have been learning how to sing a lullaby from the Torres Strait Islands.

### Grade one buddies

We have been making name tags and been working on the grade ones' spelling words and reading to and with them.

### Digital Technologies

We are going to turn one of our Hero's Journey stories into a movie. We have a filming group and we will either be the director, the person responsible for camera delegation, the producer or the script writer.

By Raveen and Max 4B

## Patch Family Support

As you are all aware, one of our families is in need of our continued support over the next few months. Dash, in Grade 4B, has a family member that has just returned from America, where he received the first stage of intensive medical treatment. He has had to raise a huge amount of money to do this, and still requires more for the follow up treatment. If you are in a position to support the family, please follow the link below. Many thanks!

<https://www.gofundme.com/joinmattsjourney>

## RECIPES FOR FOOD FESTIVAL!

**Please remember to send along your family favourite recipes which we can look at and maybe make at school.**

The weeks ahead will be busy as we collect and collate our recipes. We will be choosing (by voting) some recipes to actually cook for the Food Festival which will be in week 3 next term. As we cook we are focusing on:

- chemical changes in food
- solids and liquids
- are changes irreversible or reversible.

## 3 Way Conferences

Conference booking will be available on the Parent Portal in Sentral, from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017.

The students are busy preparing their presentations for you. We look forward to sharing their achievements, the great work we have been doing and their future learning goals with you!

## Information/Communication Survey

Last week's newsletter asked for you to respond to a very quick survey around the best way to send information and communicate with you. Thankyou to those parents who already provided feedback so far.

I am hoping via email we will target a broader audience to enable further responses.

If you haven't had the chance to respond could you please do so via the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P3RLZSK> This information will then help us develop a better communication plan for our community, which the School and School Council is currently developing.

Thanking you for your time and thoughts,

Regards, Deb

# Student Attitudes to School Survey 2017

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School survey is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

The Department has updated the survey for 2017 to include important new measures that are known to influence student engagement and performance. Students from the Patch Primary School - Year 4 Year 5 and 6, at our school will participate in the survey. Your child will complete the survey online during school hours using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way "testing" your child. Your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during, or after completion of the survey.

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used by the Department to combine data for research purposes only. Your child's privacy and the confidentiality of your child's survey responses will be protected at all times. No identifiable personal data is included in the survey response file.

The survey results will be reported back to the school in Term 3. No student can be identified in the results reported to schools or in any other report of the data. The survey results will be communicated to parents through our annual reporting to the community, is presented to staff and also to School Council. Last year we used the survey results to plan for 2017 and inform our Strategic Plan and this will again be the case for 2018 as we move forward in listening to our students concern

This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 23 June. The survey only takes 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time. This year we are using our Wellbeing Coordinator Jane to administer the survey to all year 4 - 6 students.

Please speak to Jane, your child's teacher or if you would like more information or visit the Department of Education and Training website:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/...>

Thanking for your time today

Regards

Deb