



Patchwork News

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 23rd February

Term 1 Issue 2

Telephone: 9756 7463 OSHClub: 1300 395 735 / 0400 708 773

Email: the.patch.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Website: www.thepatchps.vic.edu.au

Dates to Remember

February

Mon 26th School Council meeting

March

Mon 12th Labor Day – Public Holiday

Wed 14th School Assembly 2:45pm

Wed 14th Talking the Talk – Parent info on Sex Ed (pg. 6)

Tue 20th Cup-cake fundraiser for Year 6 Graduation

Mon 26th School Council meeting

Wed 28th School Assembly 2:30pm

Thu 29th End of Term - Early 2:30pm Finish

Fri 30th Good Friday – Public Holiday

April

Mon 16th Term 2 Commences 8:50am

Mon 16th Stomp The Beat Session 9am-12:50pm

Fri 20th SCHOOL PHOTOS (Note date change)

Mon 23rd Stomp The Beat Session 9am-12:50pm

Tue 24th Curriculum Day – Student Free Day

Wed 25th Anzac Day – Public Holiday

Mon 30th School Council meeting

Mon 30th Stomp The Beat Session 9am-12:50pm

School Assemblies

have moved from

Friday mornings to

Wednesday

Afternoons 2:30pm

Fortnightly

xxx

Bell Times

Start 8:50am

Recess 10:40 – 11:10

Lunch 1:05 – 1:50

Bell for drop off 3:25pm

From the Principal...

Welcome to all parents and a special welcome to our new families, I hope that your time at The Patch is a rewarding one and that you will acquire many great memories and friendships whilst you are here. If you have been at the school for some time and see a new face in the yard, please make them feel welcome, extend a hand of friendship and allow them to feel included in our community and school life. We have many opportunities for parent involvement within the school: classroom assistance with Reading, Maths or PE; assisting at Working Bees, camps and excursions and of course, being a member of one of our many parent committees who do such an amazing job of caring for our school, developing community and raising funds for the school and giving the children some wonderful experiences.

I especially welcome our 2018 Foundation children (Prep) to The Patch School community. This year we have two Foundation (Prep) classes with 38 excited and eager children beginning their primary school years. I have no doubt that The Patch's transition program played a significant role in our Foundation children (Preps) confidently walking through the door last week. Preps have also had their buddies helping with a smooth transition into the yard.

We encourage and value parental and community support at The Patch Primary School. There are many ways that parents, grandparents and friends can assist at our school. We encourage all parents to obtain a Working with Children's Check that will allow you to be very involved in your child's education. These checks are free for volunteers and will allow you to be involved in as many school events as you require. Once you have your WWCC, please come to the office so we can photocopy this and we will add your name to our list of parents who have a current WWCC check.

Our teaching and support staff are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure all students can achieve their highest potential. We recognise that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our student's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time ready for the day's learning program
- 2) Completes all homework given by teachers
- 3) Reads (or is read to) daily to encourage and develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life

Both my door and Assistant Principal Michelle Rayners door is always open should any parent need to chat. Our number one priority is the engagement, wellbeing and care of all students at The Patch Primary School and we are always happy to hear feedback on the improvements we are making and what we can do to better assist our students.

Of course, your child's class teacher is your first port-of-call. Should the need arise to speak directly to a staff member; you can contact us and we will organise an appointment at a mutually convenient time either before school or after school. Please allow us time during school hours as we concentrate our efforts on the children. It is very important that we devote our attentions and 'duty of care' to our school's students throughout each school day.

A reminder that we have our assemblies, beginning at 2.30 pm every fortnight on a Wednesday. You are welcome to attend, to find out what is happening around the school and to give a hearty cheer to those students that receive the "student of the week awards" and also to our newly formed choir and musical performances. Please come along if you can as your child gets a great thrill from having you there.

Please remember that if you are picking up your children early to sign them out and deliver the note to the class teacher. We understand that at times you are rushed but for the safety of our students this is a necessary process. Our long bell in the morning is working well and students and teachers are ready to work by 9.00 am.

Continued...

A reminder also to everyone that we have a policy which requires all visitors to report to the office first when entering the school. Should you need to visit the classroom, see your child at recess or are a helper at school, please report to the office first, to sign the visitor's register and pick up your visitor's tag. This ensures that in an emergency we are able to account for all people at school.

If you are having someone collect your children that is not on your emergency contact list or does not normally pick up your child, can you please send a note to your teacher. This is especially important for the junior children as we release the children from their class for the day.

We have 4 weeks until the term finishes. The week of the 12th March will be Planning Week for all staff and children will participate in their specialist lessons. This day enables staff to prepare, plan and analyse the data they have been collecting and develop the students learning focuses for Term 2.

There have been many people hard at work over the holidays to ensure a smooth start to the school year for all. Thank you mums and dads, for ensuring your children were dressed in full The Patch PS uniform for their return to school. I know this high standard will continue throughout the year. Huge thanks to our teachers for all the preparations they have made to ensure a great start to the 2018 school year. Over the past few weeks they have met in teams to discuss and plan curriculum, spent hours getting rooms ready, made teaching materials and organised supplies and equipment. Already many hours have been expended on these and other tasks, both at home and school. We are well prepared for another great year.

Thankyou everyone for a sensational start to the school year. Have a wonderful 2018.

Debra Herrmann

herrmann.debra.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

SUPERVISION

The playground is supervised from 8.45am and children should not be at school before this time unless prearranged by a teacher due to a school event. Each day teachers will be in their classroom at 8.50am parents should note that lessons will begin at 9am sharp. For more complex issues an alternative meeting time, at a mutually agreeable time, can be arranged after school.

If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, it is necessary on occasions to contact parents and we are often frustrated by out of date information that delays this process. Please make sure you notify the office of any changes to your or your Emergency Contact details as well as mobile phone numbers for our SMS system. Obviously in extreme cases we may also deem it necessary to call an Ambulance before consulting parents and you need to be aware of this. Please also keep the Office informed of any change in medical issues faced by your children as this helps us to make the best choices for their welfare. Your up to date contact information is especially important for our SMS system in case we need to contact you in case of an emergency eg bushfire.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Ambulance cover could be one consideration as the school will not hesitate to call an ambulance if we are concerned for a child's wellbeing.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development states that reasonable low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. For those parents who seek personal cover, details of an insurer who offers individual accident insurance for \$29 for the year is:

EBM INSURANCE BROKERS and the link is <https://www.ebminsurace.com.au/personal-cover/student-cover.php>

Alternatively, you can collect a brochure from the school office.

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL AT OWNER'S RISK

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools. Principals are requested to remind students and parents/guardians of this at the beginning of each academic year and to discourage parents/students from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. Please, try and avoid bringing these items as it can be most upsetting for all concerned when items do go missing.

As per our mobile phone policy, students are to leave mobile phones either with their class teachers or at the office, prior to classes commencing and collect them at the end of the day

SUN SMART: During term one, please remember that hats are compulsory at all times when outside at school (including PE sessions). As a Sunsmart school we strictly enforce the use of hats. Remember these 5 SunSmart steps during the sun protection times, even if it's cool or cloudy



1. Slip on covering clothing. If you can see skin, UV can reach it.
2. Slop on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen. Apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
3. Slap on a sun protective hat. The best hat shades the head, face, eyes, ears and neck. Our school hats comply with Sun Smart regulations.
4. Seek shade. Shady spaces help block some of the sun's UV but not all so you still need to wear hats, clothing and sunscreen even in the shade.
5. Slide on sunglasses. If practical, help protect your child's eyes with sunglasses.

For further information go to:

www.sunsmart.com.au

Students who don't have a Sun Smart hat will be directed to play in a designated shade area or invited to relax in Marmook.

Are you Eligible to Claim the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund?

Application forms are available at the office or they can be found on the front page of our website under '2018 CSEF applications'

Please present your Concession Card and your forms at the school office before 22nd June, 2018.

District Swimming Results

A huge pat on the back to our District Swimming champions on Tuesday.

Logan in Grade 6 - 1st in boys 12/13 freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly.

Nikayla in Grade 5 - 2nd in girls 11 freestyle, backstroke and butterfly.

Finn grade 5 - 3rd boys 11 freestyle and backstroke

Milla Grade 3 - 2nd girls 9/10 butterfly

Logan and Nikayla will go to Divisional on March 7th, possibly Milla and Finn too.

Well done!

Music Room News

Piano - Free to a loving home!

It is time to move on the old piano in the music room. This piano has served us well at The Patch for many years, but we would like to make space for the piano that is currently in the Japanese room to move down to the music room.

If your family would like to adopt this lovely old piano, then please contact Leanne Barton through the school office. The piano is a 'Steck Pianola' which has been converted to a regular piano. It would need some restoration and you would need to pay for piano movers to relocate it as it is a particularly heavy piano.



Choir

Choir has started at school on Wednesday afternoons and will run on alternate weeks to assemblies. All students (grade 3-6) who love to sing are invited to take part in our choir. It is not too late to join! The choir led the school singing 'Welcome Everybody' at our first assembly this year – well done everyone for a fantastic effort!

Many thanks to Chris Walker and Jess Dunn for giving their time and musical expertise to help with choir this year.

Regards,
Leanne Barton
Music Teacher

Before & After School Care service at The Patch Primary School

OSHClub is one of Australia's leading providers of Before & After School Care services, and has a record for successfully delivering the highest-quality care in Australia (as assessed independently by the Regulatory Authority). OSHClub forms strong, collaborative ties with our partner schools, and we are designing the service to meet the specific needs of your school community.

What happens at OSHClub? We believe in the power of choice for each child, so each session comprises a range of experiences for children to choose from, ...we just want children to have fun!

Our service is designed to develop stronger, healthier and happier children, and to provide an environment that is like a 'home away from home'. It is developed in consultation with children, parents, the school community and staff, and tailored to cater to the children's age, skill, interests and abilities, through a variety of challenging and recreational activities.

Activities include:

> Art/craft > Dress-ups > Science > Loads of toys > Board games > Games
> Drama > Sports > Art and craft materials > Cooking > Gardening > Homework time (if required)

We also encourage lots of outside and sporting activities, which make the most of the school's excellent grounds and facilities.

Service hours Permanent, casual or last-minute bookings are available, so you can book as much or a little as you need, whenever you need it. Permanent and casual bookings are both the same cost.

Session	Opening hours
Before School Care	7.00am – 8.45am
After School Care	3.30pm – 6.00pm

The service is registered with Centrelink, so eligible families will be able to claim the Child Care Benefit (CCB) and the 50% Child Care Rebate (CCR) on fees. The CCR is not means tested, which means just about all working or studying parents are eligible to receive it.

Call **13 61 50** to register.

For details of session fees, please contact our Service Coordinator **0400 708 773** or call our Customer Service & Billing Team on **1300 395 735** or visit our website at <https://www.oshclub.com.au/patch-oshclub-vic/>

Food

We provide healthy, tasty and nutritious food for breakfast and afternoon tea. Breakfast includes low-sugar cereals, wholemeal toast, water and fresh milk/soy milk, then a special item that changes daily – like English muffins, fruit smoothies, blueberry pancakes or fruit toast. Afternoon tea includes lots of fresh fruit and vegetables, fresh milk/soy milk, then a special item that changes daily – like toasted sandwiches, soup, pasta, vegetable wraps, mini pizzas or vegetarian tacos.

Our menus cater for any special dietary requirements, including children with allergies or cultural needs, and they take into consideration each child's preferences. We ask them what they like! The menu changes each week.

Enrolment and bookings

Enrolments and bookings are made online through our secure system available through our website or by calling our Customer Service & Billing Team. There's no enrolment fee, so it's a clever idea to enrol, so we already have your details if you need the service at short notice.

Have you got your tickets?

Talking the Talk (Parents) Session

Wednesday 14th March 7 – 8:30pm

The Patch Primary is so pleased to be able to bring the expertise and wisdom of Vanessa Hamilton of 'Talking the talk' to our school. This will be an event NOT to miss.

This will be a 90 Minute Group Presentation for Parents of Prep through to Grade 6 presented by Talking the Talk

Topics covered :

- * Age appropriate sexual development
 - * The facts about Human Sexuality
 - * Myths and fears
 - * Focus on Respectful Relationships
 - * Identifying adults' values & beliefs
- * A guide to addressing curiosity and sexuality questions
- * Supporting your child while growing up in a sexualised society
 - * How to keep your child safe

More information at: <http://www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au/parent-groups.html>

Don't forget to book your tickets early via TryBooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/TDHN>

**RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS
HUMAN SEXUALITY
BODY SAFETY
INFORMATION
PRESENTATION**

TALKING THE TALK
SEX & HEALTH EDUCATION

For Parents of Pre & Primary School Age Children - from The Patch PS

Parents from other local schools are welcome too!

Learn how to tailor conversations with your children about:

- Healthy & Respectful Relationships
- Body & Protective Safety
- What is normal early childhood sexual behaviour
- How babies are made and born
- Puberty Preparation
- Internet Safety and our Sexualised Society

Learn how to choose suitable information about sexual health

- What is appropriate for my family?
- How much do I need to tell them?
- At what age should I discuss these topics?

Testimonials from Parents

- "Brilliant, every parent should have access to this talk..."
- "This talk was very helpful to me as a parent of both a kinder and a primary school child, thank you..."
- "Such a clear presenter - easy to listen to, I liked the humour as it took the pressure off heavy topics..."
- "I feel a lot more confident talking to my kids now..."

Presented by
Vanessa Hamilton
24 years experience
Sexuality Nurse Educator
Mother of three
www.talkingthetalksexed.com.au

Wednesday
14th March 2018
Prep – Yr 6 Parents
7:00pm – 8:25pm
Followed by curriculum info
Session for Yr 5 & 6
Parents only
8.30 – 9.00pm

"Vanessa's presentation is probably one of the best parenting sessions I've ever attended. Honest, engaging, knowledgeable, fantastic. Thank you..."
Primary School parent 2016

The Importance of Attendance

Please remember that all students are expected to be in their classroom, ready to begin lessons by 8.50am.

We understand that now and again things don't go to plan, but all families should aim for their children to be at school by this time.

Parents should also remember that late arrivals or early leavers must be signed in or out by their parent or guardian using the system on the iPad at the office. The appropriate orange or red tag must also be given to the classroom teacher when collecting your child.

The Department of Education & Training has very specific expectations about school attendance and we ask that all parents be mindful of the importance of prompt and regular attendance at school.

Community Notices

In Schools Music

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French horn, Trombone, Tuba, Drums, Percussion, and Bass Guitar. **New students.** Enrolments to Andrew McAlister on 0408467147 or email ismusic@bigpond.com

Music Tuition with Chris Walker

Lessons in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after.
Phone 0407 049 012 or email chrisw7@ymail.com

Violin & Viola Lessons

Lessons are available at school on Fridays with experienced strings teacher Michaela Tory.
For further information call: 0423 434 598 or email: michaelatory@tpg.com.au.

Private Ukulele Lessons

The Patch School students now have the opportunity to take private ukulele lessons. The Patch School parent, Jess Dunn, has had 6 years' experience teaching ukulele to kids and adults and loves teaching at The Patch. The cost is \$18 for a 20-minute individual lesson or \$12 for a 20 minute group lesson (subject to suitable pairing). For more information, please call or email.
0408 102 542 jessdunn.arts@gmail.com