



Patchwork News

Respect, Responsibility, Integrity

Friday 8th March Term 1 Issue 2

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

Dates to Remember

March

Mon 11th	PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Labor Day – No students
Mon 25th	District Tennis – Selected Students
Tue 26th	School Council
Thu 28th	Yr 3-6 Athletics Day

April

Fri 5th	End of Term One – early dismissal 2:30pm
Mon 22nd	PUBLIC HOLIDAY – Easter Monday- No students
Tue 23rd	First day of Term Two
Thu 25th	PUBLIC HOLIDAY – ANZAC Day – No Students
Fri 26th	CURRICULUM DAY – No Students
Tue 30th	School Council

May

Wed 1st	SCHOOL PHOTO'S
Wed 15th	Yr 1/2 IMAX & Museum Excursion
Tue 28th	School Council

Sentral Parent Portal Link:

<https://sentral.thepatchps.vic.edu.au/portal2/#!/login>

Bell Times

8:55am Warning Bell
9:00am Learning Begins
11-11:45am First Break
11:45-12pm Lunch eating
2-2:30pm Second Break
3:30 Dismissal

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Thought for the week:

I would like to acknowledge the support of our firefighters over the last week and also our families who have been affected. Please remember to take care of yourselves and continue to remain safe.

Last Tuesday we farewelled Catherine Walker, Simon Storey, Sarah Tebbutt, from our school council, their commitment time and energy whilst being on School Council has been appreciated and they will be greatly missed. We also welcome back Becks Wapshott, and Elke Evans who have returned our newly elected School Councillors of Michael Rosenfeild, Linda McBride, Jo Cheong, Megan Robinson, Ange Ellis and Angel Brunette. Our School Council President for 2019 is Becks, Jo who continues as Treasurer, Angel as minute taker and Ange who takes on the role of Vice president. We thank these parents for volunteering and giving of their time to help the continued improvement and growth of our school.

Our year has started with an unprecedented interest in enrolling in our school, and several new students starting with us over the last few weeks. Welcome to Jace and Ryan, Stella and Ari, Tegan, Quinn and Lucas, Taylor and Alistair, Zac, Aven and Kaida, Jill and Annie and a welcome back to Gabe and Marlene. 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.

We are continuing to experience strong interest in our school and kindergarten with parents booking tours, even at this early stage of the year. We have already accepted enrolments for 2020 and remind parents of students with siblings who will commence Prep next year or who have 3 or 4 year olds to please enrol as soon as possible. If you know of any family or friends who may be interested in joining me for a tour, please encourage them to contact our school Office as soon as possible to book an appointment.

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 offer many opportunities for parent involvement within the school: classroom assistance with reading, maths or PE; assisting at working bees, camps and excursions. Alternatively, you may choose to become a member of one of our many parent committees who do such an amazing job of caring for our school, developing community, raising funds for the school and giving the children some wonderful experiences.

We extend a special welcome to our 2019 Prep children to The Patch School community. This year we have two 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 Prep children confidently walking into school. Preps have also had their buddies helping to ensure a smooth transition into the yard.

Last Friday we had the pleasure of welcoming the Mayor of the Yarra Ranges Council, Cr Tony Stevenson, to assist us in presenting our student leaders with their certificates and badges. Tony also presented Jasper with his Young Environmentalist of the Year award and was very impressed with his ability to respond and talk to our community. After Jasper's presentation, we continued with awards to our monitors responsible for Chooks, Sport, Fire, ICT, Weather, Assembly, Art, Music, Photograph, and Recycling. This year we have also introduced the following student-lead committees: Student Representative Council, Kindness Matters, Gang Green and School Tours. We look forward to seeing student agency and voice continue to expand within our school.

We also encourage and value parental and community support at The Patch Primary School. As mentioned above, parents, grandparents and friends can assist many ways at our school. We encourage all parents to obtain a Working With Children Check (WWCC) that will allow you to participate in your child's education at school. These checks are free for volunteers and will allow you to be involved in as many school events as you wish. Once you have your WWCC, please come to the office so we can make a copy and add your name to our list of parents who have a current WWCC check.

Continued...

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 students' 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 they:

- 1) Attend school daily and arrives on time ready for the day's learning program
- 2) Complete all homework given by teachers
- 3) Read daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Share school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life

Both my door and Assistant Principal Michelle Rayner's door are 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. We are always happy to hear feedback on the improvements we are making and any ways we can further 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 understand that we are unavailable for meetings during school hours as we concentrate our efforts on the children at this time. It is very important that we devote our attentions and provide 'duty of care' to our school's students throughout each school day.

A reminder that we have our assemblies, beginning at 9.15am every Friday morning. You are certainly 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", our choir and musical performers. Please come along if you can, as your child gets a great thrill from having you there. Afterwards parents and carers can gather to have a cup of tea or coffee in our Wellbeing Room and share and swap stories and ideas.

Please remember that if you are picking up your children early, we require you to sign them out and deliver our pass 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 one bell in the morning is working well and students and teachers are ready to work by 9.00am.

A reminder also to everyone that we have a policy that 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 come to the office first, 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 collecting your children that is not on your emergency contact list or does not normally pick up your child, please send a note to your teacher. This is especially important for the junior children as we release the children from their class at the end of 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.

Thankyou everyone for a sensational start to the school year and I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Regards,

Deb

Principal

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

STUDENT SAFETY – BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES @ PATCH PS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DAYS OF EXTREME & CODE RED FIRE DANGER

In the interest of the safety of our students, families and staff, The Patch School will:

- Be **closed** on days where the Fire Danger Rating is **Extreme and will relocate to Knox Central Primary School, Boronia.**
- Be **closed** on days when the Fire Danger Rating is **Code Red**, as per DET policy

As our school is on DET's Bushfire At-Risk Register, The Patch School WILL BE CLOSED on Code Red days

Where possible, when a Code Red day is declared, you will be notified between 4-6 days beforehand BUT it may be as little as 3 days. Once confirmed (no later than 1pm the day before the anticipated closure), regardless of any late change in the expected weather, the school **will be closed and this will not change.**

Due to the elevated bushfire risk, **there will be no staff at school on these days.** Updates on [school closures](#) and information on Code Red days can be found on the DET Emergency Management web page.

On days of Extreme Fire Danger, The Patch School WILL BE CLOSED and RELOCATE to Knox Central Primary School – NO OSHC PROGRAM WILL BE AVAILABLE AT KNOX CENTRAL PS

On days of Extreme Fire Danger **there will again be no staff at school.** If this occurs, families will be notified using SMS and email (no later than 1pm the day before the anticipated closure) so please be aware you may receive the same information more than once. **We will also require a 'read receipt' from you to be absolutely sure everyone is aware of this situation.**

Information about the current and expected Fire Danger Ratings can be found in weather forecasts on daily news programs, published on websites and in newspapers, broadcast on radio and on the [CFA website](#).

Please note that it is the responsibility of every family to:

1. know where to find and understand Fire Danger Rating information
2. understand The Patch School's procedure for days of EXTREME fire danger and CODE RED fire danger
3. sign the form acknowledging your acceptance of these responsibilities and return it to the school (The Patch Permission form that should be completed upon enrolment).

Please note the following procedure for children who are relocating:

- Your child will be expected to attend Knox Central PS
- Students are to arrive at Knox Central PS by 9am, no earlier than 8:45am. No staff will be on duty.
- All Parents are to park and sign their children in at the office/designated area for The Patch PS students. Please do not just drop your child off.
- All students must be collected at 3:30pm from the designated area and signed out by their parent/guardian/emergency contact. Please note that there is no afterschool care.

Thank you for your support and co-operation with this important safety matter.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

It has come to my attention that some students have already missed several days of school or are consistently late. Given that we have only been at school for a few weeks, this pattern of absence can become a real concern. Going to school every day is the one of the most important parts of your child's education. Students learn new things every day and missing school puts them behind.

Why regular attendance is so important

- Teachers often present new concepts in a sequential way, so missing out a day of school can mean missing out on the fundamentals. It's hard to make up this learning so keeping student absences to a minimum is essential.
- Friendships and socialising can also be interrupted when children are frequently absent, which can be distressing for children.
- Every day that a student misses is associated with lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

What we do know is that attendance patterns are established early in life and will often continue unless non-attendance is addressed.

What you can do to support regular attendance.

- First, there are always times when a student becomes ill and, in this instance, they should stay home to recover. It's vital however that they are only away when genuinely sick.
- To assist with good health and minimise illness children need to have a good sleeping pattern, eat well and exercise regularly.
- Families are encouraged to think twice before giving children a 'day off' unless they are genuinely sick.
- If your child is experiencing any issues such as not wanting to come to school, then please alert your classroom teacher. Working together on such matters is most helpful.

What to do if your child has been absent

- Talk to your child's teacher and find out what work needs to be done to keep up with learning.

Remember, that every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher especially if the absence is longer than a couple of days.

SUPERVISION

The playground is supervised from 8.45am and children should not be at school before this time unless prearranged by a teacher or due to a school event. Each day teachers will be in their classroom at 8.55am and parents should note that lessons begin at 9am sharp. If you need to speak with your class teacher around more complex issues, please arrange an alternative mutually agreeable time after school.

If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, on occasions, it is necessary to contact parents and we are often frustrated by out of date information that delays this process.

Please make sure you notify the school Office of any changes to your contact details or those of your Emergency Contacts 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 e.g. bushfire.

ATTITUDE TO MATHS:

As a parent, you are the most influential factor in how your child views school. Your involvement with their learning goes a long way towards your child becoming a capable, resilient and happy learner. When it comes to mathematics, many parents are scared or think they just can't do it, but it is the worst thing you can tell your child. You are a crucial role model. When you, as a parent, tell your child that you yourself can't do it, it means you are communicating messages that it's OK not to be good at mathematics. This is an attitude, which can carry all the way through school. Two things that you can do to help foster a positive attitude towards mathematics are to play games and to get your child to explain how they work things out.

Play games to show you're interested in mathematics

Playing games that involve cards or dice provides valuable opportunities to show that mathematics matters and helps them to become better mathematicians. Ask your child to tell you the number of dots on a die each time they throw one during a board game. Eventually they will be able to do this without having to count them. These kinds of activities form the basis of working out number problems in their head. Research shows that kids who can do these things mentally have a deeper understanding of the mathematics involved.

When your child is adding the dots of two dice together ask them to start counting from the biggest number, e.g. if the dice rolled were five and two, start with the number five and then count on two more. This helps your child learn to be efficient in their number strategies.

Ask your child to explain how they work things out

When your child works out a mathematics problem, such as adding the total when two dice have been rolled, ask them how they did it. What has been found through years of research is that even young children have quite sophisticated thinking strategies for solving mathematical problems. We need to communicate to them that their ways of thinking are just as important as finding out the answer. When you ask your child, "How did you get that?" they may at first say, "I don't know", but if they realize there is an expectation that they will need to explain the way they do mathematics, they will start thinking about it. The more they think about how they did something, the more it might make sense to them – it really contributes to that meaning-making process.

Student Representative Council

We are very excited to announce a new student group at The Patch! We now have a School Representative Council made up of three students from years 4, 5, and 6 who meet on Tuesdays from 11.30 - 12.00 in the library. Our representatives are:

- Year 4: Indigo A, Neve W, and Max Z*
- Year 5: Jasper F, Alex B, and Imogen R-H*
- Year 6: Hamish F, Finn H, and Lochlann F*

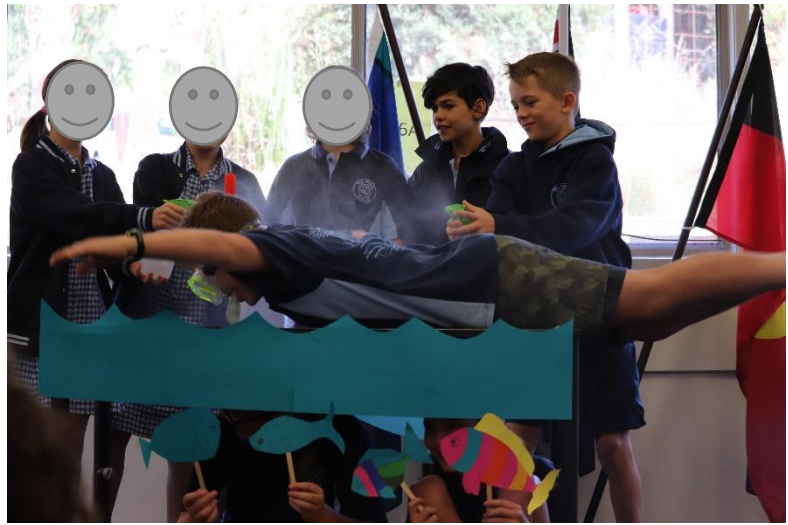
Our students have committed to represent their class for semester one and will help new SRC reps settle into the role for semester 2. As we develop our skills and confidence, we hope to extend the council to year 3 and beyond.

During their first meeting, the students viewed some YouTube videos that demonstrated what the SRC can look like and do, as well as identifying the sorts of protocols to put in place to ensure the meetings give all students a chance to participate and be the agents of change we want to see.

Our SRC hopes to build student voice and agency and to address issues that face our students in a forum that enables different perspectives to be examined and problem-solving to be developed.

Feedback from the SRC shall be shared at school assemblies and through the school newsletters as well as directly to classes. We are very excited to see where this initiative takes us!

SNAPSHOTS FROM OUR 5/6 PHOTOGRAPHY MONITORS



5/6 Students demonstrating division swimming



We had a visit from our Mayor
– Councillor Tony Stevenson



Hamish explaining his
'Redcycle' program he is
running

Australia Day Environmental Awards for Yarra Ranges Council, 2019

Our school was once again showcased during the Australia Day Awards for Yarra Ranges Council earlier this year, when two year 5 students were acknowledged for the environmental work they undertook in 2018.

Robbie Smith has been part of the Platypus Education Group for the last 12 months and has worked alongside a range of other students from local schools to improve platypus awareness in the community. Works have included providing nesting boxes for local wildlife, planting habitat for wildlife and to improve streamside vegetation, and developing an understanding of the needs of our local animals and plants. The Platypus Education Group were awarded the Ken Macintosh Environmental Award for all their hard work and Robbie was among the recipients receiving the award.

Our other representative was year five student Jasper Francis who received a Recognition Award for his work to bring the plight of the Leadbeaters Possum to our school's attention and to suggest ways to incorporate learning about our threatened wildlife species in STEM. Jasper has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to and awareness of environmental issues. His knowledge and understanding of the local environment and the animals and plants that live there is exceptional and he has a passion for learning that will ensure this grows. He is always seeking ways to involve others in the learning and readily shares his knowledge and experiences.

We are so proud to have these two students at our school and were delighted to attend the Australia Day Awards Ceremony at the Yarra Glen hall to see them presented with their awards and to hear them speak with such eloquence and confidence. Well done boys.



Are you Eligible to Claim for CSEF - Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund?

Application forms are available at the office or they can be found on our website under the 'School Life' tab 'Camps Sports & Excursion Fund'

Please present your Concession/Health Care Card and your form to the school office before 28th June, 2019.

PatchFest 2019

It's on again! Mark the date in your diary now – **Saturday, October 19th, from 12 noon until 7pm.**

We are already beginning to plan for this event and would love to hear from anyone who is interested in joining in the fun. You can email Becks Wapshott, our school council president, on Becks.Wapshott@groovetrain.com.au or myself on rayner.michelle.t@edumail.vic.gov.au or let Maddy know at the office and we can get in touch.

We have considered a lot of the feedback and experience from last year's event and have made a **few changes already:**

- The event will be a week earlier to avoid a clash with “Halloween on the Green”
- The start time will be 12 noon and will finish earlier at 7pm to avoid a too long day and also packing up in the dark (saves us money on lighting also)
- The oval shall be where the event is largely located with all food and drink for sale there (including pizza which will come up from the garden), music performances on a main stage there (professional acts interspersed with school performances), first aid, parking (including disabled parking), info tent, and student stalls.
- Activities that are largely for children and youths shall be run on the basketball courts, mostly by our students.
- Everything will be closer and more connected so helpers can also observe performances and participate in the day. A larger fire and beer and wine tent (“the big fizz”) will also be provided with additional eating and resting areas for all. We shall be encouraging families to bring blankets to mark out areas where they can congregate and sit to enjoy the event or to be a meeting place for their children.
- Volunteers will be in high demand for setting up, helping throughout the day, packing up and cleaning up the next day. To facilitate this we shall use the parent portal for families and friends to commit an hour here and there that suits them and to ensure the load is spread far and wide.
- Promotion of the event will begin shortly and reach a broader audience. We have five large banners from days gone by that are soon to be reprinted with our new PatchFest It Takes a Village logo displayed on them and this year's date.

So, chat with us about your ideas and how you may be able to help; every little bit goes a long way. We have informal chats about the festival on Friday afternoons in the garden (except for this Friday, March 8) and will announce a more formal meeting date shortly where anyone can come along and hear and chat about the festival and start implementing some actions.



A parent to the rescue

Little did Braden know taking Ned to school was going to involve becoming our emergency plumber for the morning. One of our taps was accidentally broken just before the beginning of school and water was running out of control and unable to be switched off. Braden was able to isolate the water, pop up to the shops to purchase the replacement part and fixed our tap.

Although Braden is a cabinetmaker by trade, we also found out he knows a thing or two about plumbing. Thank you once again!





ARE YOU READY TO ROAR?



REGISTER NOW
for the 2019 Season

BOYS FROM U9 to U16 **GIRLS FROM U10 to U18**

Contact Brendan Ferguson president@utjfc.com

AFL Academy 2020

Emerald Secondary College is set to launch an AFL Academy in 2020.

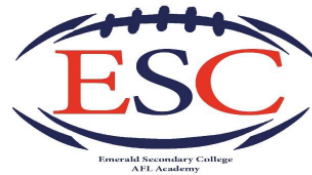
Opening to Year 7 students, the Academy will offer boys and girls the opportunity to engage with coaches, professional athletes and resources during school contact hours to excel learning of the great Australian game.

The Academy program will aim to sequentially develop individual players through skill development, games, professional strength and conditioning sessions, match rules and conditions fitting their stage of learning and ability.

Aims:

- The Emerald Secondary College AFL Academy is aimed at providing an integrated academic pathway driven by young students sporting aspirations.
- This elite program allows young student athletes to enhance and develop their sporting talent while concurrently receiving their secondary education.
- It is crucial to the Academy that students' academic pursuits are of the highest priority and that each student's interest and aspiration in sport assists them in achieving high results both academically and athletically.
- Promote and enhance self-discipline, goal setting, time management and leadership through team participation and team experiences

Applications have now opened and can be collected from Jarrad Donders at Emerald Secondary College. We will be holding an information night on the 26th on March 2019 at the College open night. For any further information please direct any quires to Jarrad Donders at Emerald Secondary College.



P: [\(03\) 5968 5388](tel:0359685388)
E: Donders.jarrad.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
f www.facebook.com/ESCAFLAcademy



JOIN THE MONBULK HAWKS
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
NEW PLAYERS WELCOME

NEW CLUBROOMS, GROUND & FRIENDSHIPS

Girls U14, U18 plus Auskick
Boys U9 to U16 plus Auskick

Boys: Garth 0402 104 643 Girls: Jo 0438 596 866
 Auskick: Michelle 0408 392 247 Email: prezmjfc@gmail.com

Find us on **facebook** We are a Good Sports club **goodSPORTS**



Monbulk Netball Club
Players Wanted

We are looking for a couple of players to join our 11 and under teams.

It doesn't matter if you've never played before, all abilities are welcome, but you must have turned 9 years old.

Training: Wednesday 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Game day: Saturday 9am at Knox Regional Netball Centre, Ferntree Gully (from now until August)

For more information contact us at monbulknetballclub3793@gmail.com

CAMP FOR BUILDING SELF ESTEEM & CONFIDENCE FOR KIDS!



SAY NO TO BULLYING! OVERCOME SHYNESS!

KIDS OF GOLD, 323 MONBULK RD SILVAN VIC 3795 – ABN 57 327 231 83

Scholarships are to be offered to a limited number of schools very soon in Term 1.

Open to Primary kids in grades 4-6 in 2019 (and 9 year olds in grade 3) including those who have entered Year 7 in 2019. This is for those who've never been to a Kids of Gold camp before, but includes a few who have been before to help everyone feel at home and fit in. A number of bookings have already been made for this camp. There are more spaces available for girls rather than boys, as the boys are filling up fast.

Activities are fun: from low ropes, initiative activities, wall climbing, games, drama and challenging interactive sessions.

Starting in Feb 2003, this camp has continued for one reason— because it works! It builds kids to be much more confident and increases their self esteem.

Google kids of gold to see who we are, what we do and to apply online or download a form for the May 19 camp. The form and website have more on how the camp started and where it is situated in the beautiful Yarra Valley.

Fri 17th – Sun 19th May 2019
\$70 Full Fee *
www.kidsofgold.org.au

Held at Lyrebird Park
Beenak Rd, Yellingbo
~~Melways~~ 307 K10

*Cost of \$70 is subsidised by sponsors such as Bendigo Bank, Bunnings and Yarra Ranges Council.

Contact Kids of Gold
0418 170 027 (Jenny) or
9737 9475 (Gary) to hold a
place and/or find out more

The Importance of Attendance

Please remember that all students are expected to be in their classroom, ready to begin lessons by 9.00am.

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

Piano & Guitar with Chris Walker

Tuition in piano, guitar and bass guitar during school hours and after.

Phone 0407 049 012 or email chrisw7@ymail.com

Violin & Viola Lessons

New Teacher details coming soon...

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