



School Council Newsletter

MARCH 2023



Hello!

Its hard to believe we are halfway through term 1 already, but here we are! What a start to the year we have had. The staff have hit the ground running and once again we are grateful for all the oppurtunities that our kids have to look forward to this year! Welcome back to all our Patchies and Welcome to all our new Patchies too!

Our first school council meeting for 2023 was held on Tuesday the 28th of Febuary.

As you will see in the newsletter, we faREWELLED departing members and welcomed new ones to council. We elected the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. These are noted in this newsletter. This year the role of Vice President will be shared over the 4 terms. We look forward to another successful year of supporting the school and our community.

See you under the tree soon
Ange





SRC - Our Student Representative Council

The SRC is a very special group of students who are elected to represent their classes and help with decision making, assist with issues that may arise and most importantly, be the voice of the students. Michelle works with the group on Tuesday afternoons and guides them in the responsibility that they have taken on.

When possible, members of School Council attend these meetings to see if they can assist in anyway. Be it creating posters for free dress charity days, advertising on Facebook for any needs, or helping to bring other ideas to life.

Because they have ALOT of ideas!

They also have an open invitation to attend a school council meeting throughout the year and provide a report on their work.

We hope as the year goes on they will provide updates in this newsletter for you as well.



FREE DRESS DAY

WEDNESDAY 22ND MARCH

COME AS YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE CHARACTER

NO COST EVENT

ORGANISED BY THE SRC

STUDENTS ARE ASKED NOT TO BRING FAKE WEAPONS OR TO WEAR COSTUMES THAT COULD BE FRIGHTENING TO YOUNGER STUDENTS



Council updates

Hello & goodbye

This year we say hello, welcome back and goodbye to members of our council. We say *Hello* to Kathryn James and Mel Muller and thank them for taking on the role of councilor in what will be a busy year! We welcome back Emma Taylor and Prep Teacher Alesha, both of whom are invaluable on our Well Being team.

We say *Goodbye* to our Parent members Olivia Cozzolino, Illana Payes, Briony Mackenzie and Teacher Pauleen. Thank you for all the work you did whilst on council. From Fundraising to assisting with documentation and so much more, your skills, time and dedication during the difficult of the years of Covid and its aftermath was very much appreciated.

Thank you

Our Principal

Then we have the news that Deb, our Principal, has made the difficult decision to retire.

We are sure that throughout the year we will have ample opportunity to reflect on her 40+ years working in education, 16 of those residing at The Patch, and thank her for all her work and dedication.

The year ahead

The School Production

2023 is shaping up to be a big year for The Patch PS. We have The All School Production to look forward to! This will be such an exciting and busy project for all of our community and one that will provide lovely memories for the kids, teachers and families!

The Production is our main fundraiser for the year and is guaranteed to be a show stopper!

The School Build

The building works and plans for the school are coming together and more information will be made available to the community as soon as it can be. Deb and Michelle are working very hard behind the scenes with constant meetings with Architects, Landscapers, The Education department etc. to ensure we get the best result for our school. Council continues to advocate to the Government for future funding and will keep you updated when we can.





Our Principal

As we have now come to the realisation that Deb is indeed leaving us for a well-earned retirement, our thoughts must, inevitably, move to what happens next for the school.

The Process of choosing our next school principal will be discussed at the school council meeting held in March. Scott Crawford, our SEIL, will explain and guide council of how the process works and who will be involved.

A panel comprising the following will be chosen to work together to ensure that all aspects of our school's needs are met when interviewing with the possible candidates.

The Panel will be:

- A Teacher from the Patch
- School Council President
- An elected member of council
- SEIL
- A local Primary School Principal

The Majority of this work will take place in Term 2.

We will keep the community updated as we move forward with this process.





Easter Raffle Fundraiser

Raffle draw - 31st March

Help the school to raise funds! We are excited to be raising money for music resources and construction equipment.

The raffle draw will be taking place at assembly on Friday 31st March.

Step 1

Donate 1 egg or 1 bag of easter eggs or anything "easter related" to go into raffle baskets. We need donations to come into the school the week of **Tuesday 14th-17th** to be dropped at the front office to Kim.

Step 2

Ticket purchases from QKR will open for sale from **March 13th - 24th**. Purchase \$10 for 10 tickets (or more) & your children can on-sell the tickets to friends, families, neighbours. (tickets will be sold in \$10 bundles).

Step 3

Return your ticket stubs to the front desk by **Thursday 30th** for the draw at assembly on March 31st.

Good Luck!





Social Media @The Patch



We understand that not everyone has a social media account or even wants one! And those that do, know just how good a social media detox can be for the soul every now and then. However, it does prove to be a fast way to get information out to our community when needed, or if you need to find something fast.

Obviously the first point of information is Compass. **Please make sure your email is up to date with Kim in the office.**

The school has a Facebook page run by the staff
The Patch Primary School | Facebook

We also have a family's page. Please be aware that this is run by parent volunteers. There is no staff involvement. It is a good place to ask for playdates, check in the files section to find lost newsletters or information, find out about free dress day or for any other community information sharing

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/familiesofthepatchps>

Families of The Patch Primary School Group | Facebook

There is a page for the Nest that is currently under construction as it has been inactive over lockdown to some degree. We will share the link for that once it is up and running again.



Our school council members 2022

President: Ange Ellis

Vice President (Term 1): Nadine Godall

Treasurer: TBA

Secretary: Mikhaela Bourke

Parent Council Members

Emma Taylor

Kathryn James

Tex Moon

Peter D'Abico

Mel Muller

Staff Members

Karen Robinson

Tania Blandthorn

Michelle Rayner

Deb Herrmann

Alesha Sangster

Community Member

Jo Rouse

Who to contact

If you have anything you would like to discuss or have raised by someone on council, please do not hesitate to reach out to Ange or any of our members. In the meantime, please check the link below to see if your concern or issue is something school council can help with. A gentle reminder that our parents volunteer their time, and may not always be available.

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-council-powers-and-functions/policy>