



PRIMARY SCHOOL

Family Name _____

'Quality Education in a Friendly, Caring and Supportive Environment'

Email: bridgewater.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: www.bwaterps.vic.edu.au



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

34-42 Eldon St

Bridgewater on Loddon, VIC, 3516

Phone: 5437 3081

BPS Newsletter – Number 1

Friday 4th February 2022

Respect

Excellence

Relationships

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Principal
Julie Ladd

President
Leah Bailey

Vice President
Shannon Zimmer

Treasurer
Heidi Ferguson

Finance Committee
Leah Bailey
Heidi Ferguson
Julie Ladd

Minute Secretary
Chris Guinane

Members
Leah Bailey
Heidi Ferguson
Rae O'Toole
Joelene Simsen
Chris Guinane
Shannon Zimmer

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see our new and returning students this week. The preps walked through the gate with confidence abound, ready to take on the world.

Swimming

We will be running four extra swimming sessions this year—the 22nd, 23rd, 28th of February and the 1st of March. The sessions will be held at the river with water awareness and safety also a focus. As we begin our outdoor classroom in the next few weeks, it is important that we establish safe behaviours next to the water.

Inglewood PS

To allow for greater consistency of curriculum programs, we will now be attending Inglewood Primary School on a weekly basis. Students and staff will be leaving at 9:00 am sharp every Friday morning and then returning at 12:00 noon in time for Chinese. Students will attend Art, Music and PE classes as well as a recess break to ensure that our students have the opportunity to socialise with their Inglewood peers. Our cross school learning program will be starting next Friday the 11th of February.

CSEF

Please note that CSEF applications are currently open and available to anyone with a health care card. Forms are available from the office or information stand. If eligible, families can apply for the \$125 funding that will support the cost of camps, sports and excursions throughout the year. The money is available to the school to use on behalf of your child/ren for the payment of the activities stated and is not given to parents directly. Applications need to be returned to the school office by Thursday 3rd March.

School Fees

Please see attached our student voluntary fee contributions for 2022. As stated, these fees are voluntary, we buy our stationary items in bulk to keep the prices at a minimum for families and try to access grants to keep our excursions as low as possible. It would be very much appreciated if families could pay these fees.

Students who are unwell

All students have now received a RAT kit in the hope that regular testing will help to prevent any COVID spread occurring within our school. I contacted both the Education and Health Department yesterday to get a clear answer around students coming to school with symptoms consistent with COVID but who test negative on a RAT. While students can officially still attend, we need to be mindful that COVID may not yet be showing up on the test. The infectious period can range, but generally around 24 to 36 hours. If your child was presenting with cold/flu like symptoms on say a Monday, but tested negative on the RAT—it would be better to keep them home the next day and then retest on the Wednesday morning.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions or queries regarding testing etc. Tests should be undertaken twice throughout the school week.

Updated information

Please ensure that all family information has been updated if there have been any changes. This includes addresses, mobile phone numbers, emails, occupation etc.

Medical plans need to be updated annually to please ensure that staff have a copy so that we can keep abreast of your child's needs.

Student 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.

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.

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>

Have a terrific weekend and we will see you all on Monday.

Julie Ladd
Principal

Lunch Orders

A reminder that orders must be either handed in to school on a Thursday morning, or alternatively, dropped off at the bakery in person by close of business the day before.

Student Awards—Classroom Award

The classroom awards recognise students who are demonstrating skills that are in line with our school values, Respect, Excellence and Relationships.

Please note that this award will be presented at our next assembly. Assemblies will take place every second Friday afternoon at 3:10 pm at the front of the school and are due to start again on the 25th of February. All parents are encouraged and welcome to attend if vaccinated.

Student	Reason
Angus and Isaac Ferguson	For their care of the chickens and lawn over the holiday period.

Term 1 Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Monday 7th Breakfast Club Wednesday 9th Prep rest day Friday 11th Inglewood Extension 9-12	Monday 14th Breakfast Wednesday 16th Prep rest day Thursday 17th MARC Van Friday 18th Inglewood Extension 9-12	Monday 21st Breakfast Club River Swimming Lesson Tuesday 22nd River Swimming Lesson Wednesday 23rd Prep rest day Friday 25th Inglewood Extension 9-12 Assembly 3:10 pm (front of school)	Monday 28th Breakfast Club River Swimming Lesson March Tuesday 1st River Swimming Lesson Wednesday 2nd Lunch Club Thursday 3rd MARC Friday 4th Inglewood Extension 9-12

No Birthdays this newsletter



EFT DETAILS BSB 633-000 YOU MUST MAKE SURE
A/C 132448242 YOUR FAMILY SURNAME
IS INCLUDED AS THE

INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre



Serving Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Thursday, 3 March 2022

9 am to 3 pm

Mobile Library Site, Lyndhurst Street

BRIDGEWATER

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

SE156.2103



Australian Government Mobile Service Centres



If you live in a rural area, you may need to travel greater distances to access government payments and services. To make it easier for you to access these services, we're bringing them to you and your community.

Mobile Service Centres travel extensively throughout rural and regional Australia and also to disaster affected areas to provide help and support.

Staff from Services Australia travel with the Mobile Service Centres and can help you with Centrelink and Medicare payments and services. Our Mobile Service Centres also have disabled access.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Wi-Fi is available for visitors to the Mobile Service Centre and staff will be able to help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Our staff will provide you with friendly face-to-face service, information and support. From time to time, representatives from other government agencies also travel with the Mobile Service Centres.

More information

To view the latest itineraries for the Australian Government Mobile Service Centres, visit servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

The stopping locations for Mobile Service Centres are promoted in each town and on social media before each visit.

Information and help you can access on board the Mobile Service Centres

We provide information, help and support to rural and regional communities, including:

- families
- older Australians
- students
- job seekers
- people with disability
- carers
- farmers
- self-employed people.

We can assist you with:

- registering and using the agency's online services
- new claims for Centrelink payments
- updating and confirming Centrelink and Medicare information
- information on how financial matters may impact on payments
- assistance with payment and service options
- rural payment entitlements for eligible farmers
- non-cash Medicare transactions
- enrolling for and issuing new Medicare cards
- updating and re-issuing Medicare cards
- social work support and referrals.