



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 14
Friday 27th August, 2021

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,

The week has flown by, and it has been great to witness the resilience and persistence of our students with their home learning.

We currently have some students attending onsite for various reasons, all of which are approved under the Department's guidelines. We are here for everyone, so if you feel that your child is vulnerable or not coping with the remote learning, please contact me so that we can have a conversation.

Story Box

The school has been lucky enough to be given free access to Story Box until the 4th of December. This privilege is due to our selection as shadow judges and is a great tool to foster the love of reading.

Books are read by well known authors and story tellers - more about this fabulous resource can be found on <https://vimeo.com/253546476>.

The log in details are as follows:

Username: julie.ladd@education.vic.gov.au

Password: StoryBox

Vaccine

Several families in our school and local community may have been wondering what the latest information is around vaccinations for older students.

The Victorian Government is aiming for all final year students to be vaccinated by the time they sit their end-of-year exams. In addition to this, the Government is aiming to provide at least one dose for children aged 12 and older by the end of the school year, subject to the available supply of vaccines and advice from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) advice of the vaccination of children aged 12 to 15.

Eligible students and their parents or guardians should speak to their doctor or pharmacist if they have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and their health.

People aged 18 to 39 who have already booked for their first vaccine dose of AstraZeneca at a state vaccination centre will be offered the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. They do not need to rebook or change their existing vaccine appointment at a vaccination centre.

People aged 18 to 39 who have already received a first dose of AstraZeneca and not experienced any serious side effects are strongly encouraged to get their second dose when it falls due.

Vaccination bookings or change a vaccination appointment at a state vaccination centre through the [Victorian Government's COVID-19 vaccine online booking system](#).

From 30 August, people aged 16-39 can get the COVID-19 vaccine at a doctor's clinic, pharmacy, or community health service. You can find a participating doctor, pharmacy or community health service through the [Australian Government Eligibility Checker](#). You can book your appointment online or by calling the vaccine provider nearest to you.

To find a vaccination centre near Bridgewater and opening times, visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

uEducateUs

A number of parents have not accessed the platform and are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Your username and password will accompany this newsletter and we encourage all parents who have not accessed the platform, to do so as soon as possible.

Mr G, Jo and I are happy to help you set up your profile etc. uEducateUs can be downloaded onto your phone from the app store; this makes excursion consent and access to latest information easy.

Code Red Days

Schools and services are categorised for the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) based on their risk of bushfire and grassfire in line with the Victorian School Bushfire Risk Methodology.



The department reviews all schools and services according to this methodology annually. Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) analysis has informed this classification, and takes into account the Bushfire Management Overlay, Victorian Fire Risk Register, terrain and fuel-type exposure.

Bridgewater Primary School has been assessed as being a Category 4 BARR School. This means that we are at some risk of bushfire or grassfire and will be required to close on days determined to be Code Red by the Emergency Management Commissioner within our fire district.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days' notice of a potential Code Red day closure by SMS text and an announcement on uEducateUs.

A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day if your home is situated within an area that is at risk of bushfire.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, installed gutter guards on the main school building to prevent the build-up of leaf litter and continue to maintain the grounds.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. In an emergency, we will be accessing details from the uEducateUs site so please ensure that these are up to date – this includes your email.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters and any announcements on uEducateUs.

Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

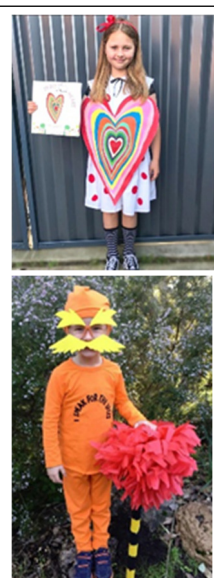
If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan. You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Thank you for your ongoing support and please remember that we are here if needed.

Kind regards,

Julie Ladd

Principal

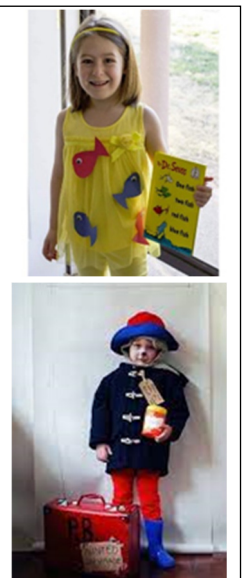


Bridgewater Book Week 2021

Our dress up on line check in @ 9.30
and activities will be on

Thursday Sept 2nd

Come as your favourite
book character!



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. Our current Award recipient will be held over to our first onsite Assembly.

Student	Reason
No Award	Due to no assembly

Term 3 Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Term 4 Week 1
Monday 30th Remote Learning <u>September</u> Thursday 2nd MARC Book week Dress up parade Assembly	Monday 6th Breakfast Club Wednesday 8th Lunch Club Friday 10th Newsletter	Monday 13th Breakfast Club Wednesday 15th Lunch Club Thursday 16th MARC Assembly Friday 17th Last Day Term 3	<u>October</u> Monday 4th Breakfast Club Playgroup Swimming Tuesday 5th Swimming Wednesday 6th Lunch Club Swimming Friday 10th Newsletter

No Birthdays this Newsletter



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