

Sunbury Primary School

Principal: Amanda Busuttill

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Monday 10 February 2020

Welcome Back Everyone!

It has been a wonderful start to Term One so far... Our students have settled well into the routines of their classrooms and the focus on learning excellence, engagement and connectedness is evident across the school.

At the end of this month families will receive our first Newsletter for 2020. Our newsletters contain important information, including details about events and/or activities taking place. Beginning with our February issue, the newsletter will be a space for celebrating learning - with a focus on a specific year level and specialist area each edition. We also have a page dedicated to wellbeing and engagement which provides useful tips for parents/guardians.

I do hope your child has had a settled start to the school year; is happy to come to school; and is excited to learn each and every day. If you have any concerns regarding your child please speak with their classroom teacher.

Important Dates:

- Thursday 20 February - Twilight Swimming
- Saturday 29 February - Harvest Picnic
- Tuesday 10 March - Investigations Information Session (P-2 Families) 6pm
- Wednesday 11 March - Japanese Day
- Thursday 12 March - 3-6 House Sports
- Friday 13 March - Fathering Project Camp-Out
- Thursday 19 March - 3-6 Interschool Athletics
- Friday 27 March - SPS Colour Explosion Stampede

New Staff 2020

I would like to formally welcome the following new staff to our school:

Olivia Graham – 5/6G
Valentin Taburet – 5/6T
Daniel Gregory – 5/6DG
April Homewood – 1/2H
Chevie Beasley – 1/2B

Welcome back to both Katherine Cleeland who has returned from Family Leave and will be teaching in 3/4M on Mondays and to Julie Kostas who will be supporting our PLCs on a Tuesday.

Prep Students

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our Prep students who have settled well and are already engaged in their learning. Our successful transition program has ensured that the school setting is familiar and students are happy and confident.

Building Works and Improvements

As I'm sure you are aware, our Buildings and Grounds will be a regular feature in our Newsletters. An outline of the works that have been carried out, and an update on works to be carried out, is detailed below:



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The Arts Building

In January, our Arts Building sustained extensive water damage due to the heavy rains. The school notified the Department and a MakeSafe followed. During the remediation process it was decided that the subfloor was quite damp in the corridor between the bluestone building and the weatherboard section, the front storeroom and the entire Arts Room. Reinstatement works have just been approved (following a Division 6 to determine if there is any asbestos in the subfloor), and we are waiting on the building group to begin work shortly to remove and replace the vinyl.

Lead-Containing Paint

Works on the safe removal of the lead-containing paint to the exterior painted surfaces of our buildings has continued over the school holidays. The rotunda has now been finished and is accessible to students. The windows and posts on The Cross Building have also been repaired and repainted. Works have slowed down on The Arts Building due to the water-damage, however will resume once repairs to the timber eaves (which have identified a roof/gutter leak) are complete. The painters are working on the weatherboard (behind the library and the cells) during school hours as this is out of bounds for students. The works are on schedule to be completed by October 2020.

Maintenance – Early Works Required

I am working with Alison Wheeler and the VSBA to organise an early works project to address the drainage issue on our site, which is the cause of the flooded Arts Building. A civil engineer has provided a plan/system that will catch the water at different points and will re-route the water away from The Arts Building. An investigation of our stormwater drains is required to ensure these are not contributing to the drainage issues.

Home-School Partnership and Communication

The partnership between home and school is a vital one. Sunbury Primary School has a strong family theme and presents a range of opportunities for involvement and engagement of parents. Staff are readily available to meet with parents/caregivers to discuss the specific needs of your children and to answer any questions you may have. Teachers will be in classrooms from 8:50am preparing for the day's learning (please note some staff have morning yard duty). In the afternoons teachers are required to attend staff meetings on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays (some staff are also timetabled for afternoon yard duty). If you would like to meet with your child's teacher/s please arrange a time that is suitable for the both of you – these conversations are important and the staff are committed to providing the time needed to discuss any concerns and questions.

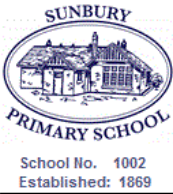
Compass Portal

Sunbury Primary School uses the Compass Portal system for all methods of communication between the school and home. It is essential that families have access to their Compass accounts and regularly check the dashboard for important communication. Compass supports the following features:

- Attendance data (including notification when a child is absent)
- Access to online Semester Reports
- Sick Bay notifications
- A booking system for Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Electronic copies of Individual Learning Plans

Drop Offs and Pick Ups

Children are our most vulnerable road users and to address this road safety issue school speed zones with lower speed limits apply to all roads surrounding school zones. Motorists should be aware that children in traffic are not like adults. They can be unpredictable and because they are small, they can be hard to see. It is also important that we observe the road signs at drop off and pick up times. Please do not park in NO STANDING ZONES as this



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can cause traffic congestion and potential collisions. So, please take extra care and observe the road rules when driving past any school. The designated school speed zones around Sunbury Primary School during specified times is 40km/h.

Can I also remind students and families that the **Staff Car Park** is **OUT OF BOUNDS AT ALL TIMES**. Please do not park or walk through the Staff Car Park at drop off and pick up times. We have sufficient paths and safe exit points around the school for students and families to access.

Meet and Greet Interviews

The school has scheduled our first Meet and Greet (Parent/Teacher Interviews) for Monday 10 and Tuesday 11 February. Bookings can be made via the Compass Portal. This initial meeting is invaluable in our endeavours to establish positive home-school partnerships. During this meeting you will have an opportunity to share important information about your child/ren with their classroom teacher/s. If you are unable to attend this meeting on either of these two dates, please contact your child's teacher to arrange an interview at an alternative time.

Assembly Time – Term 1, 2020

The whole school assembly provides an opportunity for the school community to meet and share student achievements for the week. We encourage parents to attend if you are available. In Term One, 2020 whole school assemblies will be held at **2:50pm on Fridays**. Please note that the location (and frequency) of assemblies will be impacted when the School Hall is demolished. Further information will be provided once we receive a clear timeline for the building works.