



**We would like to wish the following students a very happy birthday**

Eva, 1A  
Mabel, 1L  
William, 2H  
Marlee, 5/6E  
Ruby, 56w  
William, 2D  
Krisha, Prep T  
Khaled, 3/4J  
Nellie, 3/4W  
Louis, 5/6M  
Haydin, 5/6E  
Sunday, Prep E  
Molly, 3/4C  
Spencer, 1L  
Harry, Prep D  
Tate, 2H  
Gabriel, 3/4C  
Sophie, 1T  
Archie, 3/4A  
Haiyan, 2H  
Archie, Prep H  
Zoe, 3/4C  
Georgia, 3/4A  
Cara, 2A  
Zion, 5/6A  
Addison, Prep H  
Harper, 2A  
Luca, 2D  
Gabriela, 3/4T  
Liam, 5/6W  
Phoenix, Prep D  
Nicholas, 5/6A  
Leo, 5/6M  
Patrick, 1T  
Timothy, 2D  
Connor, 5/6W  
Ishmail, 1A  
Finn, 3/4T  
Simone, 5/6A



**Important dates to put in the diary**

Friday 31st January  
Monday 3rd February  
Tuesday 4th February  
Friday 7th February  
Monday 10th February  
Tuesday 11th February  
  
Wednesday 12th February  
Thursday 13th February  
  
Friday 14th February  
Thursday 20th February

Preps attend 9am—1.30pm  
Coffee & Numeracy Chat—9.15am—10.00am - Library  
Coffee & Literacy Chat—9.15am—10.00am—Library  
Yr 5/6 Summer Sport Round 1 @ Newport Gardens  
Prep Information Session—6pm—MPR  
Yr 1/2 Information Session—6pm—MPR  
Yr 5/6 Incursion (Teams, Trials & Trivia)  
Yr 3/4 Information Session—6pm—MPR  
Yr 5/6 Information Session—6pm—MPR  
Yr 3-6 School Swimming Trials 7am—8 am  
Summer Sport Round 2— Home game  
Yr 3-6 School Swimming Trials 7am—8 am



It would be appreciated if each family could donate a box of tissues to their classroom.

**School Terms 2020**

**Term 1** 28th Jan - 27th Mar  
**Term 2** 14th Apr to 26th Jun  
**Term 3** 13th Jul to 18th Sep  
**Term 4** 5th Oct to 18th Dec

**Pupil Free Days 2020**

6th March  
9th June  
12th August (TBC)  
2nd November

**Public Holidays 2020**

March 9 Labour Day  
April 13: Easter Monday  
June 8: Queens Birthday  
Nov 3rd: Melb Cup Day

**Contact**

Elizabeth Street  
Newport 3015 Victoria  
Phone: (03) 9391 8942



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all Newport Lakes students and families. We are very pleased to have you back again and so eager to get back to work! A special welcome to all our new students beginning at Newport Lakes this year and to the 4 classes of Prep children that began their first day of school today.

We are sure you are going to enjoy your time at Newport Lakes Primary. Please remember that we are here to support you on your new educational journey and don't hesitate to ask any of us if there is something troubling or puzzling you.

A big welcome to our new members of teaching staff this year including classroom teachers Hannah Whitaker (Prep), Bec Barham (Yr.1) and Erin Meade (5/6). We also welcome Brent (LOTE- Indonesian Yr.2-6), Suzanne (Performing Arts –Drama) and Jacqui (Education Support) who will begin with us in term 1 and possibly continue for the remainder of the year.

### **Bush Fires and Air Quality**

All of Victoria was dismayed and shocked by the recent bushfires that occurred in Victoria and other states over the recent holidays. A number of parents and children have told me of some of their personal stories of their own holiday experiences in fire affected areas as well as others having family and friends directly involved in the fires.

Most of the state was also involved when we woke up finding our city and home engulfed in smoke for a number of days. We have been informed that the smoke and poor air quality may again return over the coming months. The Department of education has supplied all schools with the **Air quality and outdoor activity guide for schools and early childhood centres**.

The guide has given us instructions on how to gain 'real time' measurement of the quality of air in our local area ranging from good to hazardous and informs the school about when and how to modify outdoor activity based on EPA's air quality categories.

### **Buildings & Grounds**

We are continuing to improve our school grounds with some further works carried out over the holiday break. Some of these works include;

- ◆ A vegie garden using recycled timber fruit boxes (ex-masterchef) has been constructed near the oval between the green shed and Gym entrance.
- ◆ A new sun shade is presently being installed over the seating area in the new quiet yard.
- ◆ New fencing has been constructed around the bike and scooter storage areas, and
- ◆ Energy efficient LED lighting has been fitted throughout the multi-purpose room (hall, kitchen and art room)

Tenders are currently being sought for the installation of new artificial turf on the oval. Further updates on this major project will be included in future newsletters



## Principal's Report (continued)

### Smooth Start

All grades had a smooth start to the school year and the students have quickly been acquainted with their new teacher and class friends. The specialist programs of Physical Education, Art, Indonesian and Performing Arts (Music/ Drama) will all begin their weekly timetabled lessons next week. For these sessions parents are reminded that children will require; Physical Education ~ runners (school shoes are not suitable for running and when participating in active programs), a water bottle and if possible, shorts /or tracksuit and in Library a library bag to protect borrowed books (a green/blue recycle bag from the supermarket is great for this task). The school has purchased a number of class sets of water proof art smocks to protect children's clothes during the visual art lessons.

### Mobile devices and contacting students at school

Parents are advised that students are NOT permitted to use mobile phones or any other mobile device to contact parents, family or friends at school. Parents are also requested not to contact (phone, email, messenger etc) their child/ren at school using a mobile device (phone, iwatch, ipad, laptop etc). If a parent needs to urgently contact their child, or relay a message to their child, they must contact the school office and the message will be passed onto the child.

A number of parents have informed us that their child brings a mobile phone as they walk to and from school as a safety device. In these cases, the phone **must be turned off** and placed in the child's bag whilst they are at school.

### Sunsmart – Term 1

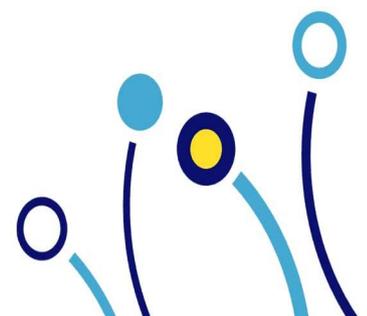
Newport Lakes Primary School is a 'Sunsmart School' and has a policy that all students are to wear an approved sunhat (bucket or legionnaire style) during terms 1 & 4. Students are to bring along their hats to school every day during Term 1 and a 'no hat ~ no play' rule will apply. Parents are reminded to clearly label their child's hat and to continuously check that the label remains legible. It is also recommended that all students have their own water bottle with them every day at school. This bottle will be accessible to the children during class and must only contain water. Please **do not** fill with juice, cordial, etc. Parents are asked to apply sunscreen before school and provide sunscreen in their child's bag for reapplication throughout the day

We have already experienced some very hot weather and we should expect there will be more of these extreme days as we proceed into the months of February and March. If the hot weather becomes extreme (eg. above 34°C and a strong northerly wind) there may be the need to restrict or reduce the outside play times during recess or lunch. Although many of the children are very disappointed about missing their outdoor play periods, it is necessary that we restrict the amount of exercise and exposure to the heat on these days. In these situations, students will be supervised indoors where they participate in passive play such as board games and craft activities.

### COMMUNICATION AT SCHOOL

Communication between school and home is very important in every child's education. There are multiple means of staying in touch with your child's teacher and being informed of what is happening at school. Some of these include:

**Newsletter** – Every second Thursday the school newsletter is distributed to parents by email. The newsletter will contain information about activities that have been happening and are being planned for the future.



## Principal's Report (continued)

**Reminders Notice** – Every Monday or Tuesday a 'Reminders' notice will be sent out via the Compass Portal to all families on the newsletter distribution list giving details of the upcoming events for the following 2 weeks.

**School Website** – The school website ([www.newportlakesps.vic.edu.au](http://www.newportlakesps.vic.edu.au)) has a wealth of information about the school and what's happening. There is a school calendar that contains dates of all events and activities throughout the year including holidays and pupil free days.

**Classroom Blogs** – Blogs will soon be set up for each classroom / team that will allow parents to keep up to date with what is happening in their child's classroom.

**Twitter** – The school has its own twitter account and will often send out special notices on what's happening in your school.

**Contacting your Child's Teacher** – If you have any concerns or would like to discuss a matter in regards to your child it is very important that you arrange to meet with your child's teacher. This can be done in a number of ways including;

- ♦ dropping in to the classroom before school ( 8.50-9.00am) Only suitable for brief messages.
- ♦ arranging a meeting at a time suitable for both parties. This can be done by sending a note to the teacher, emailing the school (place teachers name in subject box) or leaving a message and contact details at the school office for the class teacher to contact you.
- ♦ emailing the teacher (as above).

**Meet the Teacher Interviews.** Meet the Teacher Interviews will be conducted for all year levels on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February between 2-7pm. Bookings for all classroom and specialist teachers will once again be conducted online via the Compass Parent Portal. The Booking system will open on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 4.00pm. A detailed instruction sheet will be sent out via Compass.

**Student Reports** – All children will be assessed on the New Victorian Curriculum. This incorporates English, Mathematics, History and Science. Student reports will be available on Compass prior to the mid year parent interviews and at the end of the year.

**Assisting in the Classrooms** – There are many different ways you can assist in school and your child's classroom. A parent helpers program will be operating for all P-2 classes where parents are rostered on to assist with the daily reading program. An induction program will be held later in term 1 for new Parents to assist in the Parents Helpers Program. Further information on these sessions will be placed in upcoming Newsletters.

Parents are also often required to assist on excursions and classroom activities where an extra set of hands and eyes is of invaluable assistance. Please discuss with your child's teacher if there are ways you can assist in the classroom.

All parents / carers etc. will require a current Working With Children Card to assist in any activity at the school. We advise parents to apply for a WWC to avoid the disappointment of missing out on being able to attend or assist with your child's learning at school.

**Information Sessions** – In week 3 of this term we will be conducting Information sessions in the evenings for all Year levels. These sessions will give an overview of the curriculum, special events and activities, homework etc. All teachers in the grade level will be in attendance. The sessions will be conducted in Multipurpose Hall from 6.00 -7.00pm.

The dates for each of the Information session are;

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Prep

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Yr. 1/ 2

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Yr. 3/ 4

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Yr. 5/ 6



## Principal's Report (continued)

Due to some excellent feedback we received after last year's information sessions, we will be continuing this format in 2020. Rather than the formal 'lecture' style of presentation, this year the presentations will be far less formal (small table groups) and will involve more interaction between the parents and teachers.

The Information Sessions are optional and unfortunately child minding will not be available.

### **Anaphylaxis**

I would also like to remind our school community that we have a number of children at Newport Lakes that suffer from the life-threatening condition anaphylaxis. These children suffer from severe allergies to nuts and nut products (especially peanuts and peanut butter), eggs, fish and shell-fish. We ask all our parents to assist in making our school a safe environment for these children by not including any of these products in your children's snacks or lunches.

If there is a child suffering from Anaphylaxis in your child's class you will receive a letter notifying you of this and how you can assist in making the classroom a safe environment for all children.

**School Ground Supervision** Parents are reminded that playground supervision (teacher on duty) is provided before school at 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm. Students should not be in the school grounds before or after these times unless supervised by their parents or an adult. Students should aim to be at school between 8.45 and 8.55am. This allows them to see their friends, chat or play a short game before school begins at 9.00am. Students playing in the school ground or on playground equipment after school **MUST** be supervised by their parents or guardians.

The school gate on the Basketball Court will be locked at 3.45pm when the teacher on duty has completed their yard supervision. Any children and parents remaining in the yard after this time will need to exit via the school gate near the office.

### **School Council - Interested?**

School Councils are made up of parents, staff, community members and the principal. To be a school councillor, you must have an interest in the school and be able to work cooperatively with others to shape the school's future. If you're a parent, guardian or staff member, you must nominate yourself to be a school councillor and then be elected through a vote (if required). A term on School Council is for 2 years.

Newport Lakes Primary School Council has 8 parent representatives, with 4 placements becoming available every 2 years. There are 4 sub-committees within the School Council including Finance, Education, Facilities & Management and Community and Fundraising. You may wish to be on the School Council or possibly be a co-opted member on a sub-committee.

Further information on School Council and how to nominate is available later in this newsletter. Nominations (and if required) elections will be held later in February.

**Student Leadership** Congratulations to our four new School Captains for 2020. Jack, Jane, Levi and Aria will be excellent student leaders and ambassadors for the school. I am sure they will also be wonderful role models for our younger children who will see them take the school assembly each week and perform other leadership duties throughout the school.



## Principal's Report (continued)

We are currently in the process of selecting the school's House Captains and many of the Yr. 6 children are delivering their campaign speeches at school assembly over the next 2 weeks. We invite all parents to come along and listen to the children make their excellent and often very entertaining speeches to convince the students to vote for them as their House Captain for the year. This week we will hear from the candidates from Green and Yellow house with Red and Blue nominees giving their speeches the following week.

The school's Arts Captains will also be announced this week at assembly. The role of the Arts Captains is to give assistance to the Arts Teachers (Visual and Performing Arts) and students when required and promote the school's excellent program at a student level.

Later this month each class (Yr. 1-6) will also choose their representative for the Junior School Council (JSC). At Newport Lakes we strongly believe in giving students a voice in many aspects of the school and classrooms. We have a very active JSC that meet each week and give their opinions and direction on how we can have a better school.

I hope you have a good week

**David Moss**  
Principal



# Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

## Factsheet for school students and children

Last updated 29 January 2020

An outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was detected in Wuhan, China in late December 2019. Cases have been reported predominantly in the city of Wuhan, in the Hubei province of China, as well as some other Chinese cities and countries, including two confirmed cases in Victoria, Australia.

### What is this virus?

Coronaviruses can make humans and animals sick. Some coronaviruses can cause illness similar to the common cold and others can cause more serious diseases, including Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

The virus seen in Hubei Province, China is called 'novel' because it is new. It has not been detected before this outbreak. Most people infected live in, or travelled to, Hubei Province, China. There have been cases of 2019-nCoV reported in other Chinese provinces and other countries. It is likely that the virus originally came from an animal, and there is now evidence that it can spread from person-to-person.

### What are the symptoms?

Symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, or shortness of breath. Symptoms can take up to 14 days to develop.

### What if my child is well, and returning to school after being in Hubei province, China or other countries with cases in the last 14 days?

**All students and staff members who have travelled to Hubei Province, China, are advised to stay at home and avoid public settings, including attendance at schools and early learning centres, until 14 days after last being in Hubei province, China.**

Children and staff who are well and have travelled to other provinces in China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases, are NOT recommended to be excluded from schools and child care services unless the following applies:

- The person is a confirmed case of novel coronavirus
- The person is a close contact with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus in the past 14 days

### What if my child feels sick now or within 14 days of being in Hubei Province, China or another part of China?

- If your child has a cough, sore throat or shortness of breath, they must be excluded from school and be reviewed by a doctor.
- Seek medical attention but first place a mask on the student if you have one and call the doctor or hospital before you attend. Tell them your child has been in Hubei province, China, or the location of travel within China.
- When you get to the hospital or doctor's clinic, tell them where your child has travelled in China and whether this included Hubei Province. Ensure a mask is placed on your child before or as soon as you arrive at the medical facility.

If your child has severe symptoms, such as shortness of breath:

- Call 000 and request an ambulance, and
- Inform the paramedics where your child has been in China.

### How can I help prevent the spread of 2019-nCoV?

Practising good hand and sneeze/cough hygiene is the best defence. The most important actions are:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow

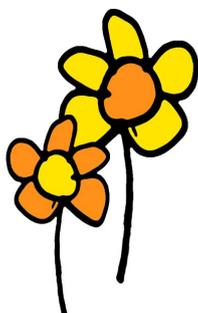
### Where can I get more information?

For Victorian updates to the current incident, go to: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/novelcoronavirus>

For national updates: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/latest-information-about-novel-coronavirus>

For international updates: <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>

WHO resources <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>



 **Newport Lakes** Primary School

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