



DIARY DATES

Monday 27th November

David Skinner dance lessons

Monday 4th December

David Skinner dance lessons

Tuesday 5th December

School Concert—6pm

Wednesday 6th Dec.

Final 2023 Prep transition

Friday 8th December

LaTrobe pool excursion 5/6

Book packs to be ordered

Monday 11th December

David Skinner dance lessons

Meet The Teacher

Thursday 14th December

Wednesday 13th Dec.

Christmas Activity Day

Monday 18th December

Tuesday 19th December

Zoo excursion P-4

**Grade 6 Graduation** 

# Wednesday 20th Dec.

Last day of Term 4—1.30pm dismissal after assembly and Grade 6 farewell



# Principal's Report

This term seems to be disappearing in a whirlwind of activity. As this newsletter goes out we will have had our third Prep transition session and prep information session. While we are welcoming our newest students, our current grade 6's are preparing for their next step to Secondary School with autobiographies underway, artwork in the corridors for the graduation and rehearsals for the graduation night.

#### **SCHOOL CONCERT**

The other end of year event that is being frantically rehearsed is the end of year concert. We are planning (and really hoping) for our concert to be held at the Firefighters Memorial Park. If the weather is not on our side, we will move to the Panton Hill Hall instead. The concert will begin at **6pm** and should conclude by **7:30pm**.

As is customary, we will be conducting an auction at this event for each grade's artwork. The students have been working on these in the artwork over the last couple of months and they are looking gorgeous! We will place photos on Xuno before the event.

### **2024 PLANNING**

An update regarding 2024 class allocations and structure! Thank you to those who submitted requests. Your trust in us and the positive comments throughout those requests was warming. **Parent requests are now officially closed**. We have spoken with your child to get an idea of their preferred 'learning partners' for 2024.

As you are aware, flexibility is required in our community school around class allocations and student groupings as sometimes, our options are limited in terms of movement.



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Therefore, we take the challenging task of building classes very seriously. It takes several weeks to finalise class lists with so many moving parts at work. Our decisions are always made with the consideration of the best interests of our students.

We consider the following when building classes:

- Learning partnerships
- Parent requests
- Student list
- Social groupings

Finally, it is important to note that we do not take academic levels into account when making these decisions as we pride ourselves on an individualised program that suits the needs of every child. Social interactions are prioritised - happy kids learn!

Students will find out who is in their 2024 class on our "Meet the Teacher" day which is on **Wednesday December** 13th.

The teaching team for next year is as follows:

Steph Brindley Prep
Amie Grisold Prep
Merron Thomson 1/2
Justine Puls-Welsh 1/2
Briony Kane 3/4
Zoe Payne 4/5
Stafford Hurst 5/6



When considering teacher placement, I take the following into account:

- A one-on-one conversation with the teacher to discuss and reflect on their year
- Which area of the school the teacher has taught in over the past 5 years
- The school priorities as stated in the strategic plan and how it aligns to teacher areas of expertise and further training
- Teacher extra responsibilities in the school
- Teacher preference

Thank you for your support and understanding as we embark on this tricky task. As usual, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

### **EARRINGS AND HAIR**

I would like to remind families of some important safety considerations for our students to think about when getting ready for the school day:

- Hair— Long hair should be tied back on school days. Particularly as we head into hotter weather, to
  avoid an infestation of unwanted nits.
- Earrings— Only stud earrings are to be worn at school. This is a safety issue for students to avoid nasty injuries
- Footwear— Students must wear covered shoes while at school. Sandals are not acceptable footwear.

#### **EMERGENCY DRILL**

Last Thursday we conducted an additional bushfire emergency drill with a particular focus on what the process would be should we need to evacuate whilst the students are outside during playtime. One of our students had brought this up to me at the beginning of the year. Given that it was clearly a concern for her (and most likely other students) we felt that it was an important exercise to add to our existing drills. The teachers discussed the process with their grades prior to the drill and emphasized the need for students to enter the building in an organised way, being mindful of the safety for all. We were very impressed with the conduct of our students who moved very swiftly from all areas of the playground and assembled in their assigned spots in the Shelter in Place building ready for roll taking.

As we move into the bushfire season and see that the season has started quite early in other states, I would like to remind parents to please ensure that you have your personal bushfire safety plans in place and that all of the members of the family understand the plan. We fully support families enacting their plans on high risk days. We ask that you let us know either through Xuno or a phone call.

We are a BARR3 (Bushfire at Risk Register) school which means that on days that are rated Catastrophic the school will be closed. This will be communicated to families the day before and regardless of whether the forecast is changed, the closure will remain in place.

### **PARKING**

We were made aware this week of a situation that could have been quite serious out the front of the school. A car had been parked in the designated bus zone in the morning, forcing the bus onto the other side of the road and coming very close to sideswiping parked cars. We ask that all parents please observe the parking zones for the safety of all.

# <u>IMPORTANT CONCERT NEWS - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY</u>

Dear Parent/s and Caregivers,

Next **Tuesday 5th December** at **6pm** sharp, is the school concert. Please have your child ready at the park by **5:45pm.** We are hoping to have it at the park (opposite the round-about, at the end of the school near the kinder) but if the forecast does not look good, it will have to be in the Memorial Hall opposite the school. Please have your Xuno notifications on, so I can inform you of the change of venue if needed. All grades will be performing, with the choir first and all students are required to stay for the whole event. The students need to sit with their grade the whole time please, near the front of the stage. This makes it more streamline getting the students on and off stage. Could you please have your child/children dressed in Christmas colours or clothes such as red, green, white, gold, silver etc. Please no big Santa suits as they need to dance. Please have your child/children modestly dressed. No short shorts or short skirts and no mid-driff showing please.

Which brings me to the next point in regards to sound, although the acoustics are better in the hall, there is very little room for parents, family and friends to watch. The park is great, for space, for the audience however the sound disappears. This is due mainly to my decision to have the children move and dance. I have made some modification this year for the senior grades so hopefully the sound is better. Going forward we have a few options - hire a theatre (in Warrandyte) at a cost to parents at \$25 a ticket approximately or hire better sound equipment at \$20 approximately a child (still be in the park subject to weather so sound is not a guarantee) or stick with what we already do, at no cost to you. These costs are an estimate and could possibly be more. I'm happy to discuss this with you further, if you wish. Please feel free to email me — <a href="mailto:native:

All the students have worked especially hard for this event. I know that some students may be very anxious about performing. This is a very normal feeling and the only way to overcome the nervous feeling is....by performing. They will be fabulous because they have worked so hard! Thank you, Natika Jenes



# 2024 Student Bookpacks



It is again that time of term when we begin to prepare for the following year. One of the steps that needs to be addressed is the ordering of student book packs for 2024. As we have done in previous years, book packs are ordered directly by parents through Maxim Office Group by clicking on this link Maxim Office Group booklist. The final order date for delivery prior to the first day of Term 1 is the 8th December, 2023. When placing your order, please make sure you select the year level they will be in 2024. Please see the attached document explaining the ordering process.

Once ordered, your child's book pack will be delivered directly to school and placed in their classroom ready for the first day of Term 1, 2024. If you have any questions or require assistance in purchasing your book pack, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 9719-7202.

## HOW TO ONLINE ORDER WITH MAXIM OFFICE GROUP PTY LTD

# **Panton Hill Primary School**

#### To order your Book pack:

- 1. Please follow this link: http://www.maxim.booklists.com.au
- 2. Your access code is: PANTONHILL \*Please note this is capital sensitive. Please enter code as displayed in screen.
- 3. Select the year level required for order
- 4. Please ensure that the students' name, your name and contact details are given and correct
- Select 'Place order'
- 6. If purchasing more than one booklist, please select 'Add another booklist' and follow the same procedure from step 3
- 7. Select 'Proceed to payment options'
- 8. Your total payment amount required will display on screen
- 9. Select 'Pay Now'
- 10. Please choose your check-out option Credit/ Direct Debit available. Ensure payment details are correctly entered
- 11. You will receive a payment receipt and an order confirmation to the email address you provided
- 12. Your child's pack/s will be delivered to the school for collection Thank you, Maxim Office Group Pty Ltd

Thank you,

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25-27 Massey Avenue

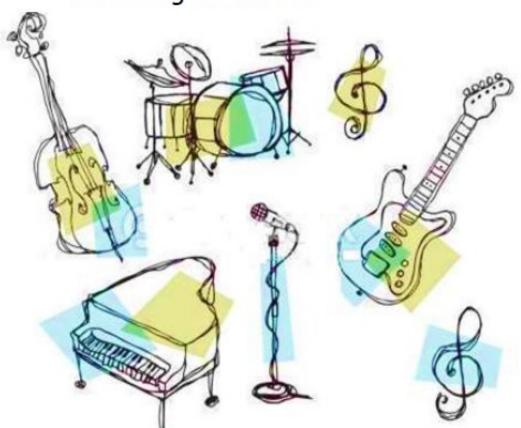
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