



*A Rich Past,  
Present & Future*

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 2nd February, 2024

*Term 1: Week 1*



## DIARY DATES

### **Friday 2nd February**

Notice of School Council Election

### **Wednesday 7th Feb**

Prep testing

### **Friday 9th February**

School Council Nominations close

### **Tuesday 13th February**

Meet the Teacher

### **Wednesday 14th Feb.**

Final Prep testing

### **Monday 19th February**

School Council Meeting

### **Wednesday 21st Feb**

School picnic

### **Wednesday 28th Feb**

Bushfire drill

Divisions swimming -TBC

### **Friday 8th March**

Curriculum day

(Student free day)

### **Monday 11th March**

Labour Day

(Student free day)

### **Monday 18th March**

School Council Meeting

## *Principal's Report*

### **WELCOME/WELCOME BACK**

How lovely it has been this week to have our PHPS crew back together again. I love the start of the year where we hear all about the holidays, everyone is looking relaxed and we are all well and truly ready to jump back into the school routine—I know some parents are more than ready for this!

We are welcoming 28 amazing preps this year—who have all been superstars this week! We are also really pleased to be welcoming our two new teachers—Miss Grisold and Mrs Kane who have slotted in beautifully.

Unfortunately the school wasn't looking quite it's best on our return which was disappointing. You may have noticed the area outside the office. We had a leak and flooded/ mouldy carpets just before we came back and we are in the process of rectifying this.

We also had an issue with our septic tank which had to be dug up, meaning that our garden bed was laid bare. It is all fixed now (thank goodness) and we will get onto re-planting. Oh the joys of a 153 year old school! Never fear—it will be spick and span in no time. We have some plans this year for some significant maintenance to our school buildings.

We have some important 'start of the year' notices in the newsletter, so please read through carefully.

### **FAMILY DETAILS**

We will be emailing out a copy to parents/guardians of the Student Enrolment Information Form for each student. This document contains all of the contact details and important information we require for our students and it is important that each year it has been thoroughly checked and updated if necessary.

One of the important parts of this document is the emergency contact list. This is a list of people, other than the primary/alternate family (already listed on the form) who you would like the school to contact should there be a situation where there is an emergency and we cannot get in contact with either of the primary/alternate adults.

*585 Main Rd. Panton Hill – Ph: 9719 7202*

*[www.pantonhill.vic.edu.au](http://www.pantonhill.vic.edu.au)*

We will always attempt to contact the primary/alternate adults first in an emergency before calling the emergency contacts. Please note that these emergency contacts are the only people who are authorised (other than parents) to pick up students from school. If you have alternate arrangements for pick up it is important that you please contact us and notify us who will be picking your child/ren up.

If there are any alterations required to your form please let us know by either calling us at the office, amending them in Xuno or emailing us on [panton.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:panton.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au) and we will make the amendments.

## PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

At the start of each year we schedule Parent Teacher meetings for parents to discuss and exchange information with the teachers. We will be having these interviews on **Tuesday 13th February** after school - starting at 3:30pm. They will be of ten minutes duration and are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher. Keep an eye out for a Xuno notification. Bookings will be made through Xuno.

## IMPORTANT FORMS


Just a reminder that we have some important documents which require parent/guardian permission. These forms are all on Xuno. Thanks to those families who have already completed them.

- Local excursions—eg: Bunjil Reserve, Library Bus., Hall etc.
- Head lice forms
- Permission to administer Stingose
- Photo permission

**Value Award Winners**

**Congratulations to:**

Jai Mirrielees, Harry Borthwick & Joshua Brown



Operation  
Honesty

## SCHOOL PICNIC—SAVE THE DATE

Every year, we love to organise a get together for our whole school community while the weather is still (hopefully) warm. This is a great opportunity for our school families to pull up a picnic rug, get together, share some food and join in with a few fun races etc. More details will follow, but for now, please put Wednesday the **21st February** in your diaries.

## ART SMOCKS

A special request from Mrs Howard in the art room. If you haven't already supplied an art smock—or if the existing one is too small, could you please send one along for those delightfully messy art lessons!

There is no need for a commercial art smock, an old shirt with the sleeves rolled up or cut to size are absolutely fine.

## TISSUES PLEASE

We would greatly appreciate boxes of tissues that could be donated. Please pass on a box or two to your child's grade if possible.



## CSEF

### Camps, Sport, Excursion Funding

*All Health Care Card holders and Pension Card holders are eligible for CSEF. If you have not already applied or your financial circumstances have changed, please contact the office and complete an application form.*

**SCHOLASTIC**

**Book Club**

Please order and pay for your books online at  
<http://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/>

Scholastic Bookclub - please order online

If you have any queries about registering or using their ordering system please contact Book Club Help on 1800 021 233 or the school office.

Orders for this issue must be placed and paid for online by:

**Friday 16th February**

Please note that books will be available for pick up from the school approx. 1 week later

**Statement of Commitment** PHPS is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.



## SCHOOL PREPAREDNESS AND PRE-EMPTIVE ACTIONS FOR THE BUSHFIRE SEASON

Fire danger ratings indicate how dangerous a fire would be if one started in those conditions and provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. They can be a trigger for action in community and for school and household level fire plans.

Schools and children's services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at some lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list will be closed when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their Bureau of Meteorology district.

Schools and early childhood services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list take pre-emptive actions on elevated fire danger days to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions. The category of risk (per the BARR or Category 4 list) determines the actions that the school or early childhood service will need to take on days of elevated fire danger.

**Our school has been identified as being one of these schools at high bushfire or grassfire risk, and is listed on the Bushfire at Risk Register (BARR) / a category 3 school.**

Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in the Central fire district.**

The department will advise our school of the potential for a **Catastrophic fire danger rating** as information becomes available, however the pre-emptive closure will be **confirmed by 1pm the day prior to Catastrophic fire danger day.**

Fire danger ratings are forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology up to four days in advance. Should a Catastrophic day be forecast, we will notify you of the potential closure by an email or hard copy letter and SMS message/Xuno. Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and 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 Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- Depending on which fire weather district is impacted, bus route cancellations may affect our school.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and prioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

### **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 relocated / undertaking remote and flexible learning and/or closed due to elevated fire danger or a Catastrophic fire forecast. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).

Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.

**Statement of Commitment** PHPS is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.

Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.

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 current information about school and early childhood services closures, including those due to elevated fire danger, on the Department of Education and Training's website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices

VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)

Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)

Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)

ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

## CHILD SAFETY AND WELLBEING AT PANTON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Information for families and the school community

The Victorian Government has announced new [Child Safe Standards](#) to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Panton Hill Primary School has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on the school's website, via or on request at the school's front office.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Panton Hill Primary School at:

[panton.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:panton.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au) or by phone on 03 9719 7202.

## ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to read our school's collection notice, found on our website [PHPS-Privacy-Collection-Notice-1.pdf \(pantonhill.vic.edu.au\)](#)

We ask parents to also review the [guidance we provide](#) on how we use Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. A PDF is available under supporting resources at the bottom of this linked page <https://arc.educationapps.vic.gov.au/software/26>

If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages: Amharic, Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese

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J O I N U S

# back to school Picnic

Wednesday 21st

February

5pm to 7pm



# PANTON HILL JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



# JOIN US

OPT FOR A HOME,  
NOT JUST A CLUB.  
JOIN OUR FAMILY IN 2024!

REGO DAY  
10AM - 12PM  
SUNDAY 11 FEB 2024  
A.E. CRACKNELL  
RESERVE



CALL CHRIS 0422 604 988  
PHJFC.PRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM  
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/P/PANTON-HILL-  
JUNIOR-FOOTBALL-CLUB-100054460839648/](https://www.facebook.com/p/panton-hill-junior-football-club-100054460839648/)

**PHCC PINK STUMPS DAY**

**FIELDS OF**

**PINK**



**PHCC TAKE ON PHFNC IN AN  
EPIC T20 CLASH!**

**THIS COMMUNITY EVENT WILL  
BE HELD ON SUNDAY 25TH  
FEBRUARY 2024  
FROM 12.30PM  
AT CRACKNELL RESERVE  
ENTRY \$5 PP - KIDS FREE!**



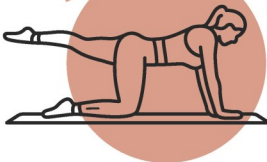
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# PILATES

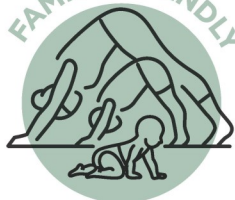
IN

Panton Hill

STRENGTH



FAMILY FRIENDLY



CARDIO



ALL  
LEVELS  
RELAXED  
LOCAL

STARTS 29 JAN 2024

**MON 7PM Strength**

**TUE 9.30AM Family Friendly**

**WED 7PM Cardio**

**THU 12PM Family Friendly**

**AT PANTON HILL HALL**

580 Kangaroo Ground - St Andrews Road

**BOOK** [hforhealth.com.au/pantonhill](https://hforhealth.com.au/pantonhill)







# DIAMOND CREEK BLUE LIGHT DISCO



16TH FEBRUARY, 2024



7-9.30PM | 8 TO 13 YEAR OLDS | \$8 ENTRY



Diamond Creek Community Centre  
28 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek

Contact: Snr Sergeant Wayne Spence 9438 8300  
Please ensure children have an emergency number on them.



Diamond Creek Blue Light Disco



DIAMONDCREEKBLUELIGHTDISCO

