

ISSUE 24  
October 16th, 2020

Office Hours - 8:30am to 4:00pm - Monday to Thursday  
9:00am to 3.30pm - Friday

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**OCTOBER**

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Grade 3&4 Coolamatong Camp  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Grade 5&6 Coolamatong Camp  
Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> - AFL Grand Final Public Holiday  
Fri 30<sup>th</sup> - Prep 2021 Transition Day

**NOVEMBER**

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> - Pupil Free Day  
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> - Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

## Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We have had another wonderful week! Everyone continues to be happy to be back at school learning with their teachers and classmates. Grades 3 to 6 students are very excited about their camp next week. On Monday and Tuesday next week the Grade 3/4 students will attend Farm Camp at Coolamatong and on Wednesday and Thursday the Grade 5/6 students will attend Coolamatong's Lake Camp. We feel very fortunate that these camps can go ahead in our current COVID climate. It will be a truly valuable opportunity for our students to reconnect with their peers and our school staff. Please look forward to lots of photos in next week's newsletter.

## COVID Normal Practices - Keeping Everyone Safe

As we conclude our second week of onsite learning, we continue to have strong measures in place to protect the health and safety of students, staff, families and the community. This includes monitoring student health, staggering pick up times at the end of the day, ensuring learning spaces are well ventilated, restricting access to school grounds and continued emphasis on hand hygiene and physical distancing where possible. Please continue to be vigilant around supporting our COVID Safe practices.

## DRINK BOTTLES

Thank you to those students who continue to bring their refillable drink bottle from home. Due to our drinking taps being unavailable for use we encourage all staff and students to bring refillable drink bottles for use during the school day.

## VHAP

Congratulations to Rahni, Sara and Mitchell who have been selected to participate in the Victorian High Abilities Program. This term they will attend online English classes each week with other students from Gippsland. They were selected by the Department of Education and they are looking forward to further developing their already outstanding creative writing skills. They worked on some exciting storylines this morning.



## Parent Survey

### **WE WANT OUR PARENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!**

Earlier this week families were emailed links to two online surveys. One is a school based survey to collect data for our school review next term and the other is the annual Department of Education Parent Opinion Survey. If families could please complete both surveys that would be greatly appreciated. If you would like the links to be resent please contact the school office. An outline of the Department of Education Parent Opinion Survey is provided below.

### **DET Parent Opinion Survey**

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our school. The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst all parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, student engagement and experiences of remote and flexible learning. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

All parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year, the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November**.

The survey will be conducted **online**, only takes **20 minutes** to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

## *Street Library is On it's Way...*

Paynesville Primary have become recipients of a State Library Australia and CBCA's Street Library. Street Libraries are colourful cubby houses for books. They allow a casual approach for the school community to discover a new book, share a love of reading and feel connected. Once established, students can take a book, give a book, share a book and help spread the love of literacy. Dee is working on decorating our Street Library and we look forward to having it up and running. Thank you to Karen Fleischer who obtained this for our school.



In the words of our Street Library friends: 'At a time when so much of our lives have become digitised, these tiny vestibules of literary happiness are able to surprise and delight the lives of those who stumble across them and the books that line their shelves.'



## The Little Wave

Thanks again to Karen Fleischer who has lent our school 8 copies of 'The Little Wave' by Pip Harry for our senior classes to use as a part of their reading program. 'The Little Wave' is the winner of the CBCA Book of the Year: Younger Readers category, and I look forward to hearing what our Grade 3 - 6 readers think of it.

## School Photos

The current Department of Education Operations Guide does not allow school photos to take place. This means we have postponed the John Ansell photo day that was scheduled for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October. If there is any change to the Operations Guide we will try to reschedule and let you know.

Not only are you helping your club, school or charity, you'll also get extra benefits.



## Exciting News – Ritchies IGA are launching their new benefits card.

Our Fundraising Partner Ritchies IGA, are launching their new Ritchies Card, incorporating the Community Benefit Program and this will not only benefit our organisation, but also all our members. The program now has an App for both IOS and Android smart devices. For those members who don't have a smart phone, or would like a physical card, this option is also available and can be linked to the App. Every month, our organisation will receive 0.5%\* of our members' spend in Ritchies Stores PLUS our members will receive special offers and member only specials via the App. \*T&C's apply see <https://www.ritchies.com.au/ritchiescardterms>

**Featuring monthly promotions, cheaper prices for you, Collect and Win, as well as games and lots more fun things to do, this is a great opportunity to support our club.**

**You can download the Apps by scanning the QR codes above - or search for Ritchies in the Apple App Store or Google Play.**

Your Club President, John Smith