

TOOTGAROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL'S NEWSLETTER



Term 4 Issue 4

Thursday 5th November, 2020.

NEWSLETTER

Principal's Report



Dear Families.

As students in both mainstream and specialist settings recommence on-site learning in Term 4, I want to thank you all for your efforts during this challenging time. I also want to reassure you that the health, wellbeing and safety of children, young people and those involved in their education continues to be of paramount importance.

Throughout the pandemic we have closely monitored the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on schools; the strategies that can be implemented in schools to reduce risk; and the health impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19) on children and young people, including those with a disability or complex medical condition.

Research by Murdoch Children's Research Institute found that coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission in schools is uncommon when community transmission is low. A [summary report](#) of these findings is available to read.

With declining case numbers in the community, I am confident that the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission in mainstream and specialist schools is very low, when we have in place a range of health and safety measures.

The health and safety measures recommended for schools focus on the strategies we know are most effective. These include ensuring unwell staff and students remain home, good hand hygiene, enhanced cleaning and wearing face masks (only mandatory for those 12 years and over attending high schools). Temperature screening is not currently recommended for schools, given low levels of community transmission. I encourage you to read the [health and safety advice for schools](#) for further information on what schools are doing to keep students and staff safe.

The most important thing I ask of every family this term is to keep your child home from school if they have even the mildest coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms and to get tested as soon as possible. Staying home when unwell is one of our strongest measures to limit the spread of the virus. For more information on what to do if your child is unwell, see this [fact sheet](#).

The good news is that evidence continues to show that children are less impacted by the virus, and are less likely to develop severe illness. Additional [advice for families](#) has been developed for those with medical vulnerabilities to support decision making about on-site learning at this time. Working together to implement COVIDSafe strategies, I am confident Victoria's students can continue to safely attend school throughout Term 4.

Prof Brett Sutton
Victorian Chief Health Officer
Wayne Whitworth
Principal



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Principal's Report continued



Upcoming events in our school.....



We will be celebrating book week on Thursday 12th Nov with a dress up as your favourite book character. We understand that there is a lot happening this term, these costume days are completely optional, here are a few simple character costume ideas to help inspire you!



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- **11th November Remembrance day.**
- **School Photo Day will be on 18th November 2020**



If your child has any medical condition such as Asthma/Allergy/ Anaphylaxis, please ensure our office has been supplied with an up to date plan so that we may care for them in the best possible way in the event of an emergency. If you took medication home during remote learning please ensure it is brought back to the school office as soon as possible.



To commemorate **REMEMBRANCE DAY** on **Wednesday 11th November** the children are able to purchase a Poppy from the school office for a gold coin donation. All proceeds go to Rosebud RSL to support our war veterans. Thank you for your anticipated support.



Please ask if you can all keep 500ml pasta sauce jars for us. We will need over 100. We will keep a box in the staff room. Thank you



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Assistant Principal's Report



Dear Tootgarook Families,

With Children returning to school and life returning to the new COVID normal, we are continually seeing new guidelines that we need to adjust to. However, children continue to express concern or worry about COVID -19. It is important as parents and carers that you are not afraid to discuss COVID -19 with children. Please see some points below on how you can do this.

Don't be afraid to discuss coronavirus (COVID-19) with your children

Most children will have already heard about coronavirus. Parents and carers should take the opportunity to talk to them about the current situation.

Honest and regular communication is key. Not talking about something can make children worry more.

Children often rely on their friends and social media for the news. Parents and carers can help by positioning themselves as a trusted source for information and as a person who can help children with their questions.

Adapt information based on your child's age

Try to remain calm and positive when talking to your child.

Think about your child's age. Offer information using language and examples they'll understand.

It's okay if you can't answer everything – and to say you're not sure. Being available to your child is what matters.

Be careful not to share too much information all at once. This may cause alarm to your child.

Avoid talking in a way that could make your child feel more worried.

Be reassuring. Tell them that eventually, things will go back to normal.

Be aware of the language you use with your child while you're around them. Remember that children will be listening to adult conversations more than usual.

Don't dismiss your child's fears. It's understandable for them to be concerned because they have probably never experienced anything like this before.

If you feel stuck as a parent to have these conversations with your children, you may have another trusted family member who could support you with this.

Kindergarten and School 2021

It is also that time of year where you may have questions surrounding your child's readiness for Kinder and or starting School. If you feel you need further guidance around this, Anglicare is offering a session 'Getting ready for Kindergarten and School in 2021' All details and information is attached in the flyer

NAIDOC week is next week.

What is NAIDOC week?

NAIDOC stands for **National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee** and celebrates the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week is celebrated by all Australians and is a great opportunity to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Paul King
Assistant Principal



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Assistant Principal's Report



ONLINE - Parenting during Covid 19

PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS

A program for parents, grandparents, & carers

- Connect with other parents.
- Develop resilience as a family in difficult times.
- Looking after our families' Mental Health & Well Being.
- Getting help if you are feeling overwhelmed parenting at home.

DATE: Friday 27 November 2020
TIME: 1.00pm to 3.00pm
WHERE: Online via Zoom with a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone
COST: FREE:

TO REGISTER:
Sam Hewitson-Email: sam@ourplace.org.au
Kerrie Russel-Email: kerrie@ourplace.org.au
Call or Text 0416596551
www.facebook.com/OPBridgewood
Jasbir Singh at Parentzone
Call / Text 0438 004 285 to register or
Email: jasbir.suopada@anglicarevic.org.au

PARENTZONE



anglicarevic.org.au

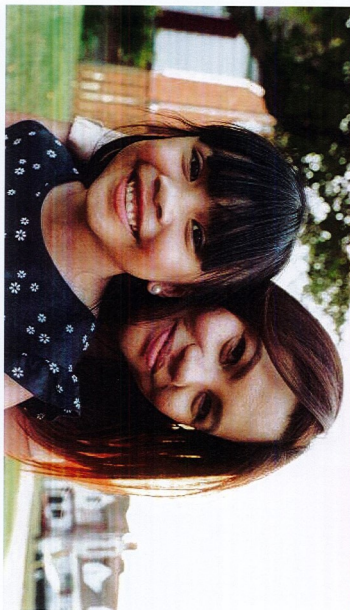
BETTER
TOMORROWS



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Anglicare
Victoria



PARENTZONE HUB ONLINE

FAMILIES GROWING TOGETHER Getting Ready for Kindergarten & School in 2021!

Would you like the opportunity to meet & chat about your child's readiness for kindergarten or school in 2021?

Would you like support to complete your child's enrolment forms for kindergarten or school in 2021?

Are you looking for information and referrals to support services for your family?

***ONLINE** from the comfort of home. Laptop or mobile phone required. Via phone or online with Zoom. Support with Zoom available.

CALL US!

PARENTZONE HUB Coordinator:
Deb on 0428 654 624 or email
deb.davey@anglicarevic.org.au
for further enquiries...

anglicarevic.org.au



BETTER
TOMORROWS

RYE CRICKET CLUB
EST 1891

2019/20 UNDER 12
PREMIERS

TRAINING STARTS
WEDNESDAY 4TH
OF NOVEMBER
2020
4:30PM RYE OVAL

ALL AGE GROUPS UNDER
10'S, UNDER 12'S, UNDER 14'S
AND UNDER 16'S WELCOME

REGISTER TO PLAY TODAY
HEAD OVER TO
PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU
AND SEARCH RYE

2019/20 UNDER 16'S PREMIERS
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