

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

KINDNESS

WELLBEING

INTEGRITY

RESILIENCE

Hi Everyone,

It has been so nice to see all the smiling faces coming in the school gates over the last couple of days. It has been wonderful to hear the classrooms, corridors and the schoolyard filled with chatter and laughter again.

Due to COVID restrictions, we have had to cancel and modify many aspects of our normal school life. While excursions and incursions are currently not permitted, we are investigating and planning new ways of delivering new and exciting programs.



We are still taking enrolments for Foundation 2022 as we realise that many families have held off due to COVID restrictions preventing them from actually visiting schools and taking tours. Once again, I urge anyone that has not done so, to enrol as soon as possible.



Our planning for 2022 has begun and very soon, teachers will begin the detailed process of allocating students into their new classes.

As a staff, we are all involved in this process to ensure all aspects are considered when formulating these new classes. Parents may send written submissions to me with particular concerns they may have regarding their child. While I will consider them, we are not able to guarantee parent requests.

If your child/children won't be attending Gladstone Views Primary School next year, it's important you let us know by contacting the office on 9338 6083.

Absences and Learning During Onsite Days

If a family should choose to keep their child at home on a day that they are required to attend onsite, then this will need to be recorded as an Absence, with Parent Choice being the explanation. Please ensure you enter your child's absence on COMPASS if this occurs.

Please note also, that teachers will not be able to provide any additional learning programs for families opting to keep their child at home on a day when they should be onsite. Teachers will be required to deliver their teaching program to their class onsite on the days allocated. On the days when students are not required to be onsite, then the class teachers will continue to deliver their learning programs via the regular Remote and Flexible Learning program.

Face Masks for Staff, Students and Visitors

As per Department of Education and Training (DET) and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) mandates, all adults on a school site MUST wear a properly fitted face mask at all times, whether they be staff, parents, carers, visitors or contractors. Regardless of whether you are in the school yard or entering a school building, please wear a Face Mask. Those with exemptions must carry evidence with them at all times.

Face masks are now mandatory for all school students in Year 3 and above when indoors including at Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) programs unless a lawful exception applies. Face masks can be removed while outdoors.

Community Engagement Parent/Carer Survey

During Term Two, we asked for your opinion and feedback regarding our school community and the different ways you would like to be involved in supporting and enriching our community. Through this survey, we found that 71% of parents believe that our school has a strong community spirit; demonstrated through special events such as Italian day, Open Days, school parades, after school events, fundraisers and through our communication with parents.

Eighty percent of parents are interested in contributing to the school community, however survey results showed that currently 58% of parents felt that they have the opportunity to contribute to the school community, whilst 24% of parents felt that they only have some opportunities to contribute to the GVPS community.

The survey results highlighted that our parents/carers would love to be involved in the school community in lots of different ways. An overwhelming response indicated a desire for involvement in classroom support and class events such as excursions, as well as helping in the running of school facilities such as helping in the canteen, veggie patch and library. There was interest for helping with after school events and charity fundraisers as well. We also learnt that our community would love to see our school working together with local sporting clubs, mental health organisations, aged care facilities, drama and music programs and with indigenous elders.

Thank you to all the parents that completed the survey, it has been fantastic to see how you feel involved in our community and to see your suggestions for improving our community spirit!

From The Engagement Action Team.

Canteen

Just a reminder that the canteen is open for lunch orders. Lunch orders will need to be ordered before gam each day via QKR. Canteen window sales are still not able to occur until further notice.

Camps

At this stage, we are still planning for the **Years 5 & 6** Portsea Camp and the **Years 3 & 4** Arrabri Lodge Camp to still go ahead. If you would like your child/ren to participate on the camps, please make sure you pay the deposit as soon as possible. This will allow us to finalise the camp numbers. Please note: if the camps do not take place, parents will receive a full refund.

Sun Smart

Gladstone Views Primary School is a **SunSmart** School so a reminder that hats are compulsory from September to April at school. Please make sure your child has their SunSmart hat ready for this term.



Finally

On behalf of our teachers, a huge thank you to all our students, parents and carers for your continued resilience and ongoing support. We have a busy term ahead, but the most important thing about it is that our students have started to return back to school!

I hope everyone has a relaxing weekend!

Belinda Karlsson
Acting Principal

School Diary Dates 2021

Staged Return of Students

Monday 25th October- Foundation

Tuesday 26th October-Foundation and Year 3/4

Wednesday 27th October-Foundation and Year 3/4

Thursday 28th October-Year 1/2 and Year 5/6

Friday 29th October-Year 1/2 and Year 5/6

Monday 1st November- Curriculum Day (no students at school)

Tuesday 2nd November- Melbourne Cup Day (no students at school)

Wednesday 3rd November-Foundation and Year 3/4

Thursday 4th November- Year 1/2 and Year 5/6

Friday 5th November-ALL STUDENTS RETURN BACK TO SCHOOL

School Camps

Portsea Camp, Portsea- Years 5 & 6- Monday 8th November to Thursday 11th November 2021

Arrabri Lodge, Warburton- Year 3 & 4 Monday 15th November to Wednesday 17th November 2021



Children, young people and COVID-19

OFFICIAL

Information for parents, guardians, carers and young people

Children and young people are far more likely to catch or spread the COVID-19 Delta variant than previous variants of COVID.

Children and young people (0-19 years) make up [22% of COVID-19 cases](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorian-coronavirus-covid-19-data) (coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorian-coronavirus-covid-19-data) in Victoria in 2021.

Children with COVID-19 are likely to experience mild symptoms or no symptoms, and are highly unlikely to become severely unwell or need to go to hospital.

While statistics show that COVID-19 is still not a serious illness in children, they can transmit the virus to others, putting older family members at possible risk.

Children under 12 can't be vaccinated against COVID-19 yet. That's why it's very important for parents, older siblings and educators to get vaccinated to help keep children safe.

Young people older than 12 are very social and highly mobile, and [supporting them to get vaccinated](#) helps slow the spread of COVID-19.

As a parent, guardian or carer, you can do your bit to keep children healthy: stay home if you have symptoms, however mild, get tested as quickly as possible, isolate, wear a mask and get vaccinated.

Symptoms and treatment

Children and young people with COVID-19 are likely to experience mild symptoms or none at all, but they can still transmit the virus to others.

Fever and cough are the most common symptoms of COVID in children and young people.

If your child has a fever or cough, no matter how mild, you should seek advice and get them tested.

For advice, call the 24-hour Coronavirus Hotline 1800 675 398 or contact your doctor.

Getting a COVID-19 test

Testing is free for everyone in Victoria.

You can take your child to get tested at [any COVID-19 testing site](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19) (coronavirus.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19).

After your child has been tested, go straight home and wait for the results. Do not go to work or go out shopping with your child after their test.

You will be contacted by phone or SMS to tell you the results of your child's COVID-19 test, regardless of whether it is positive or negative.

If you are worried you will lose pay while you wait for results, you may be eligible for a [\\$450 Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Test Isolation Payment](#).

For more information about testing results and isolation requirements, visit [Getting your results](#)

Getting vaccinated for COVID-19

Free and safe COVID-19 vaccines are available for everyone aged 12 and over. Young people who turn 12 during the COVID-19 vaccine rollout can get vaccinated.

You can book an appointment with your doctor, at some pharmacies, or online at [book your vaccine appointment](#) (coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment)

Learn about [COVID-19 vaccines for children and teenagers](#) (coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-information-children-and-teenagers)

The more people who get vaccinated, the greater the protection for the whole Victorian community.

Wearing face masks

When teachers, staff, and students consistently and correctly wear masks, they help protect themselves and others from COVID.

Children aged 12 years and over who are attending secondary school must wear a face mask indoors and outdoors, unless they are eating, drinking, or exercising or a lawful exception applies.

Children in grades 3-6 are required to wear a mask indoors when at school, where practicable.

Children with a disability aren't required to wear a mask if it is not suitable for them.

Children under the age of two should never wear a face mask, as they are at risk of suffocation or strangulation.

Find a mask that is made for children to ensure it fits properly. Masks for children are sold by a range of retailers and businesses.

Check that your child's mask fits snugly over their nose and mouth and under their chin, and make sure there aren't gaps at the sides of the mask.

For ideas on how to discuss mask wearing and concerns or questions children have about masks, [visit Face masks and COVID-19: supporting children 0-12 years](#) (raisingchildren.net.au/guides/coronavirus-covid-19-guide/face-masks-coronavirus-children)

Talking to your child about COVID-19

Parents and carers should take the opportunity to talk to children about COVID-19.

To access resources to have a safe and reassuring conversation with your child, visit [talking to your child about COVID-19](#) (coronavirus.vic.gov.au/talking-your-child-about-coronavirus-covid-19)

School and COVID-19

The Department of Education and Training has information about changes to education settings at all level during COVID-19 in Victoria, visit: [Education - information for parents, students and educators](#)

Mental health resources

Navigating changing routines and interactions with family, friends and school can cause children and young people anxiety and stress. For information and support, visit [Mental health resources for children and young people](#) and [Supporting your child's mental health](#)

For more information about children, young people and COVID-19 visit [Murdoch Children's Research Institute Frequently Asked COVID-19 Questions](#)

For any questions

Coronavirus Hotline 1800 675 398 (24 hours)

Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only

To receive this document in another format phone 1300 651 160 using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or [Public Health](#) <public.health@dhhs.vic.gov.au>.

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Available at [Translated information about COVID-19](#)

<<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/translated-resources-coronavirus-disease-covid-19>>.