



The Poppet Head

Weekly newsletter of Quarry Hill Primary School
Wednesday December 4th 2019
Newsletter No. 29

Our Vision:

QHPS students are empowered to be engaged learners. Our community fosters a culture of respect and belonging.

2019 TERM DATES

Term 4 October 7 – December 20

Principal: Jo Menzel

School Council President: Joan O'Brien

PFA President: Renee Selkrig

IMPORTANT DATES

	Time	Details
DECEMBER		
Thursday 5 th	1.45pm 2.30pm-3.30pm	Parent Helpers Afternoon Tea Colour Fun Run-Casual Clothes
Friday 6 th	11.00am	Pizza Lunch Day
Monday 9 th , 11 th , 12 th , 13 th , 16 th	Various	Swimming Program- Gurri Wanyarra
Tuesday 10 th	9.00am	State Wide Orientation Day
Thursday 12 th	4.00pm-5.30pm 6.00pm-7.30pm	School Disco-Junior Senior
Friday 13 th	3.00pm	Assembly-Calder Balsillie Award Presented
Wednesday 18 th	5.30pm 6.45pm	Gr 6 Graduation at Bendigo Club – Students drop off Parent and Guest arrival
Friday 20 th	1.00pm 1.30pm	Assembly End of Term 4-Early Finish
JANUARY 2020		
Thursday 23 rd	8.00am-1.00pm	Book Collection Day
Wednesday 29 th	Various Various	Start Up Day Interviews-Grades 1-6 Prep Assessments
Thursday 30 th	9.00am-3.30pm Various	Grades 1-6 First Day of School Prep Assessments
Friday 31 st	9.00am-3.30pm	Prep First Day of School
FEBRUARY 2020		
Thursday 27 th	5.30pm-7.00pm	Welcome Back Picnic & Expo

REMINDERS:

Parent Helpers Afternoon Tea: Thursday 5th December at 1.45pm in the Multipurpose building.

Colour Fun Run: Tomorrow Thursday 5th December 2.30pm-3.30pm.

Please return note with payment to the office ASAP. We will need parental consent for your student to participate.

Booklists: Due back this Friday 6th December. Please drop them in to the office. We do not require a copy if you complete your order online.

Swimming: Program starts Monday 9th December at Gurri Wanyarra. Notes and payments are now overdue, please return these with payment. Cost is \$55.00

Quarry Hill Primary School, 25 Peel Street, Bendigo 3550

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Website: www.quarryhillps.vic.edu.au

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~OUR VALUES~

Kind

I understand that everyone is different
I co-operate
I respect myself, others and the environment
I am community minded
I belong

Curious

I am a learner
I seek knowledge
I ask questions
I explore and wonder
I create

Brave

I am honest
I am independent
I have high expectations
I am resilient
I am open to feedback



Kind



Curious



Brave

Dear Parents and Carers

STAFFING UPDATE FOR 2020

As the year draws to an end, we prepare to say goodbye to a number of our staff:



- Alexia Boyd will be leaving us after working here for two years. Alexia has worked in Grade 1 and 2 during this time and has been a great teacher and mentor to her students and a valued staff member. Alexia has involved herself in lots of activities across the school, most notably the organisation of Book Week and the Premiers Reading Challenge.
- Sarah Harte has been fortunate to secure an ongoing position at another school. Sarah has been a wonderful asset to the school and over the years has worked across all age levels. Her role as intervention support has seen some wonderful gains made by many students.
- Katelyn Russell stepped into 15B to take over from Tamiaka McErvale when she left to go on Family Leave earlier this term. Katelyn has done a very good job of picking up the reigns and keeping the classroom buzzing along. Katelyn's contract finishes at the end of the year.
- Yuling Wu has ably supported the Chinese language program this year. Yuling's presentation has been engaging and she has brought lots of fun to the program. Yuling's contract finishes as Shengjie Chiu increases her time to cover all of our Chinese classes in 2020.
- Tamiaka McErvale will remain on Family Leave for the duration of 2020.
- Hayley Coates will be taking leave for the duration of 2020, so we won't say farewell, but wish her well with her adventures.
- Simone Fordham and Ty Jones will be also finishing up at the end of the year. Both of them have done an amazing job of supporting a number of our students this year and have really helped to make school a great place for them.

A very big thank you to each and every one of these very dedicated teachers for their contributions to our school. They have worked hard to support our students and brought a richness to our community.

Next year we welcome Clinton Donohue to our staff. Clinton is coming to us from Puckapunyal Primary School and is very keen to get involved at our school. We look forward to working with Clinton in 2020.

Bonnie McIntyre will also be returning after being on leave for all of 2019. Bonnie is also very excited to be returning to Quarry Hill. I'm sure she will have lots of stories to share with her students next year.

CLASS ORGANISATION FOR 2020

In 2020 there will be 15 classes:

Prep/1	4 classes
Grade 2	2 classes
Grade 3/4	5 classes
Grade 5/6	4 classes

Students will find out their teachers on the State-wide Transition Day next Tuesday, December 10th.

COMPOSITE CLASSES IN 2020

As outlined above, we will be running a number of composite classes again in 2020. I have put the following piece in the newsletter over the last couple of years, which still holds true:

Composite classes have been the source of much controversy over the years, with parents often believing that their child is being disadvantaged in some way by being in one. The key to understanding composite grades is realising that growth is determined in stages and not magically by ages.

Without a doubt, composite classes are a practical response to the problem of uneven grade enrolments e.g. when there are too many students to form one 'straight' grade, but not enough for two; but by combining students in this way also allows schools to ensure more consistent class sizes as well as address gender balance and balance students' social, emotional and academic needs. It is because of this flexibility that composite classrooms are often optimal for student learning and not a negative thing as is so often perceived.

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The Victorian Curriculum is a continuum of learning over 2 years. This means that curriculum planning in Victoria is based on two-year bands of schooling rather than single year levels. The rationale behind the continuum is that it gives students opportunity and time to learn, thus ensuring they have time to consolidate their understanding. This two-year banding and the whole school approach to curriculum development and planning means that students in composite classes do not have to repeat themes and topics of learning. Education is about more than academic achievement and age is not necessarily an accurate predictor of a child's development. Within any classroom, there is a wide-range of student abilities that exist in children of the same age.

At Quarry Hill Primary School, I would like to believe that the quality of teaching, combined with student interest and engagement are considered more important than class structure, whatever form that might take, providing a differentiated curriculum that caters to all children as individuals, according to their needs is the school's ultimate goal.

SCHOOL DISCO - THURSDAY DECEMBER 12TH

The much anticipated School Disco is on Thursday December 12th. Two sessions will be held, with the Prep to Grade 2 time commencing at 4.00pm and finishing at 5.30pm and the Grade 3 to Grade 6 session commencing at 6.00pm and finishing at 7.30pm. *Please note the earlier finish time.*

A reminder to all parents that this is a pre-paid event. The cost is \$5.00 per student and payments are to be made to the office. Wristbands will then be handed out to paid students upon arrival at the disco.

Please note, all students are to be dropped off & picked up by a parent/carer from the junior astro turf. Students are not allowed to walk home unattended.

BOOK CLUB – THANK YOU!

Book Club has been running at our school for many years. It provides families with an affordable and convenient way to bring the best in children's literature into their homes. Each catalogue contains age-appropriate titles that have been carefully selected and levelled by a team of professional booklovers. Lots of children love to pore over the pamphlet to see what exciting things are on offer each month.

For the last three years, one of our parents, Jane Crane, has been collating and organising the many orders that come in each month. With her last child heading off to secondary college next year, this will mean that Jane's association with the school will finish – as will her organisation of Book Club. I would like to thank Jane for all of the work she has done. It has been very much appreciated.



PREP BAGS 2020

Next year, every prep student at Victoria's government schools will receive a special bag filled with items designed to help them and their families settle into their new school.

The Prep Bags will contain children's books selected by literary experts, to provide every child access to quality books at home. The bundle of books will also be produced in braille by *Statewide Vision Resource Centre* and distributed to blind Prep students.

Each Prep bag will be printed with the winning design from the 2020 Prep Bag Design Competition. The theme was 'First Day of School.'

Former Haileybury student Ana Livia Maiorino's original art design was the winning entry. Ana Livia's design will be screen-printed onto approximately 65,000 Prep bags.



LAST DAY OF SCHOOL EARLY DISMISSAL TIME

A reminder to all families that school finishes at the earlier time of **1:30pm** on **Friday December 20th**. Assembly will also be at the earlier time of 1.00pm.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES: 'START UP' MEETINGS 2020 FOR GRADES 1 – 6

On **Wednesday, January 29th 2020**, we will be conducting our **'Start Up'** Meetings for **Grades 1 - 6**.

Each student and his or her parents/carers attend for a scheduled 15-minute meeting with the classroom teacher. A note will go home at the end of the year explaining how to book your appointment through the Compass Portal. It is a chance to introduce yourselves and to discuss issues, concerns and expectations for the year.

Even though this day is still a long way off, it is important to get the process underway before the end of the year.

Please note, **Prep interviews** will also commence on **Wednesday, January 29th**. These interview times are organised by the Prep Teachers. A separate note with interview times will be sent home to Prep parents. These interviews will continue on **Thursday, January 30th**. Our **Preps will commence their first full day of school on Friday, January 31st**.

Prep students have a 'rest day' on Wednesdays for the month of February.

Have a wonderful week.

Jo Menzel

Principal

HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The bushland project is looking great and we'd love to keep it that way! We planted a range of plants in our seasonal gardens as well as within the fenced areas. Some of them have gone dormant for the summer while others are actively growing. In order to maintain the best possible result for our efforts we are asking six families to volunteer some time watering over the holidays. If you are interested please contact the office to put your name down.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

KIND

Kayla L (Room 10A)	for always going above and beyond to keep our classroom tidy, even often picking up after others.
Amelia G (Room 12A)	for always working co-operatively with others and always with a smile.
Rita S (Room 4)	for always being a helpful class member.



Kind

CURIOUS

Flynn S (Room 5)	for reaching 300 nights of home reading.
Marli G (Room 14B)	for always having a positive approach to all learning tasks!
Harry C (Room 12A)	for being actively involved in all learning experience. Harry always presents his work neatly and with colour.
Lavender C (Room 9)	for completing her maths-length comparing activity to a high standard efficiently.
Harvey G (Room 7)	for creating wonderful cherry blossom during our Chinese Immersion day.
Clara L (Room 7)	for always being a great listener, asking questions and trying her best.
Ollie R (Room 12B)	for developing a wonderful draft in your writing project on soccer.



Curious

BRAVE

Riley T (Room 15A)	for showing persistence when making his balloon powered car.
Henry F (Room 15B)	for persevering when creating his balloon powered car!



Brave

SWIMMING PROGRAM- GURRI WANYARRA WELLBEING CENTRE

The 2019 swimming program commences on Monday 9th December at Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre.

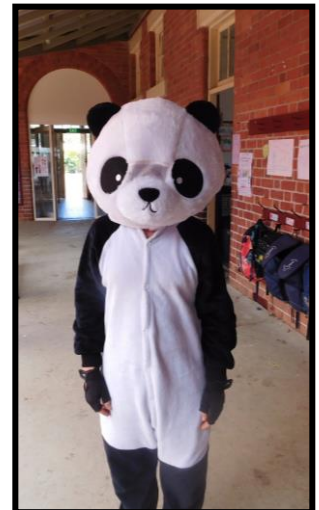
Swimming dates are:

- Monday 9th December
- Wednesday 11th December
- Thursday 12th December
- Friday 13th December
- Monday 16th December



CHINESE CULTURAL DAY

Yesterday, Tuesday 3rd December was Chinese Cultural Day at Quarry Hill. Students participated in many multi-aged activities including chopstick relays, painting cherry blossom, creating Chinese names, handkerchief dancing, and the most popular, dumpling making. It was a great day with a lot of fun had. A big thank you to Shengjie Chiu & Yuling our Chinese teachers, as well as the Chinese teachers that came from BSSC to help run the day. Here are few photos:



QUARRY HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

TEAM CHINA 2020

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

\$1 PER TICKET
OR 6 FOR \$5

FIRST PRICE - XBOX ONE AND A \$100 EB GAMES VOUCHER
SECOND PRICE - XBOX ONE
THIRD PRICE - MIXED TOY HAMPER

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE
DRAWN AT ASSEMBLY 20/12/19

P.F.A News

QHPS DISCO

Thursday, 12th December

Junior disco
Senior disco

Prep-Grade 2
Grades 3-6

Starting 4.00pm-5.30pm
Starting 6.00pm-7.30pm

Cost \$5.00

The PFA is excited that the disco is coming up!
The cost includes entry, one Zooper Dooper, one drink (juice box for juniors, soft drink for seniors) and one sausage.

All disco payments to be made to the office prior to December 12th at 3.00pm. Entry wristbands will be given out to paid students upon arrival to disco.

Extra sausages will be available to purchase on the night for \$2.00 each for those who are extra hungry!
A DJ and light show will turn the multipurpose room into our very own dance floor for the evening. All students must be dropped off and picked up from the astro turf in front of the multipurpose room. No pass outs will be given.

This is a great night for the kids and we need parent help to make it happen! Please put your name on the roster outside Room 5 if you can help to supervise, man the BBQ or serve food and drinks.

Thank you for your help!
PFA

THURSDAY MORNING CUPPA: On Thursday join QHPS community at 9.00am for a cuppa and chat in the multipurpose room. A great community inspired morning meeting new faces and coming together as parents, friends and families of Quarry Hill Primary School.

BECOME A MEMBER: The PFA would like to extend an invitation to all members of our school community, involvement can be small or large, but together we can create an amazing community for our children. Membership is free and provides members the opportunity to assist and contribute to the life of the school and education of their children, the right to vote on matters within meetings as well as an invitation to join our committee page were you are able to keep up to date on current events with ease and at a time that suits you. Forms are available at the office.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM Our Second Hand Uniform shop is open Thursday during morning cuppa from 8:45 – 10:00am and Friday afternoon 3:30 -3:45pm. This is a fantastic opportunity to support our community with much



needed items. We thank all that have donated and welcome all to come down during our open times to purchase items for 50c each.

Fire Spinning and Prop Making Workshop

Holiday program for ages 10-17

Wednesday, January 15, 2020
3 PM - 9:30 PM
Location: Maiden Gully

See  The Connected Circus for more details

Bookings: trybooking.com/BGXGQ



Ninja Training

Tuesday 14th January, 2020
10am to 2pm

1st Bendigo Scout Hall,
Vine Street

 The Connected Circus for more details

Bookings:
trybooking.com/BHERK

Learn accuracy, balance, strength and agility
Train in the use of the Rope Dart, Pois, Bo staff and Dragonstaff



KELLY SPORTS Summer HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Mon 13th Jan to Fri 24th Jan 2020

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
ENROL BEFORE 31st DEC to
get \$5 OFF PER
FULL/HALF DAY
ONLY \$45 full &
\$30 half day

Join us for a fun-filled School
Holiday Programme including
A Year of World Cups, Lots of Sports,
Awesome Games & **MUCH MORE!**

Some activities may need to be swapped for other exciting ones!
Go online to check out a full, up-to-date timetable for your school.

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU



WE WANT YOU



COME AND TRY FOOTBALL DAY

WHO: U12, U14, U16 BOYS AND U12, U14, U16 GIRLS

WHERE: HARRY TROTT OVAL, KENNINGTON

WHEN: WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER, 2019

TIME: 5PM - 7PM

BRING: COMFORTABLE CLOTHES, FOOTY BOOTS OR
RUNNERS, A DRINK AND A FRIEND!

FREE BBQ AND DRINK!



For further information contact: Shaun Langdon on 0413 922 625