



In the spirit of reconciliation PHPS acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

# **Principal's Post**



## Welcome

### 2024 P-4 Swimming Program

I have been able to book slightly different dates for the P-4 swimming program in 2024. Cardinia Life had a late cancellation and we have been able to book from Monday 9 December 2024, until Wednesday 18 December 2024. This will make the program sequential and also extend it from five to eight lessons. As this is just before the Christmas School holidays, hopefully it will help students with their water confidence and water safety.

### **Teacher Recruitment and Staff Movement**

We have appointed a number of new staff for 2024. We have six new graduate teachers: Anthea Powell, Tayla Miles, Maddison Suppa, Ovemia Shehata, Elaine Chan and Paula Thomas. We have an experienced teacher, Debra Tunne also commencing with us in 2024. Casey Runco and Shauna Watkinson have picked up 12-month positions at school's closer to their homes. Kelsey King and Stephanie Jennison will be going on family leave, with the arrival of new additions to each of their families. We wish all of them the very best for next year.

### No Hat - No Play

Unfortunately, we are still seeing many students without hats at recess and lunch. Teachers on yard duty will direct students to sit in the shade area for the duration of recess and lunch. We have some school hats in every grade to help our students get out and play. Unfortunately, we cannot provide a hat for every students. The summer sun is quite fierce in Australia and over the years many students will accumulate long term skin damage. Wearing a broad rimmed hat helps to reduce the long-term effects of the sun. Please assist your child with this requirement.



### **Lost Property**

Don't forget to come and check lost property if your child has misplaced any clothing or personal items. There are many jumpers with no name on the rack as well as other personal items. If your child's property and uniform are named, they are returned to them.

Please note: Last Day of Term - Wednesday 20 December
Finish Time changed to 2:30pm (to accommodate provision for Safety Crossing Supervisors)



### Dale Hendrick





## PHPS Pre loved uniform shop

For new and existing families and, we have a range of donated uniform items available to purchase through our School Webpage.

If your child has outgrown their uniform, we gratefully welcome all donations. Please feel free to leave these at the Office to be added to our stock.

Thank you all for your support and generous donations.

See the link below for further information.

https://pakenhamhillsps.vic.edu.au/phps-uniform/

## **Parent Information**





Pakenham Bunnings visit us on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November. She brought along two huge baskets of seedlings to plant, which were donated by the team at Bunnings.

Grade 1/2M and Prep/1OH were on hand to plant the seedlings. We planted parsley, basil, thyme, cucumber, beetroot, tomatoes, pumpkin, zucchini, corn, carrots, rocket and lettuce. Louisa taught us about companion planting. Nasturtiums and marigolds were planted to help keep bugs away. She also taught us where to put certain plants in the garden beds where they would be best protected from sun or wind to help them thrive. When the students had to go back to class, Louisa finished off by mulching our garden beds for us. It looks great!

We can't wait until Term 1 next year when Louisa visits with some of her other team members to help with more parts of our new garden. Let's hope we can look after our new plants and watch them GROW!

Mrs H and the Garden Team











# Life is for Learning



## **Connecting Two Worlds**

On Wednesday 25 October the Grade 5/6 students learnt how to cut a message stick from a piece of tea tree wood.

The workshop was led by local Aboriginal woman Samantha Richards, from *Connecting Two Worlds*. As you can see, they worked very hard to get the best result. The message sticks looked very professional!

Meanwhile, in the Gallery, a small number of students carried out an alternative task: They made brain-hats on which you can see which part of the brain is used when you move your fingers to sand and decorate a message stick, for instance.

Well done to all our Students who participated and thank you to Samantha and Connecting Two Worlds for such engaging workshops.















# Life is for Learning





## **Botanical Gardens Excursion**

On Thursday 2 November the Koorie students and the School Captains went on an excursion to the beautiful Cranbourne Botanical Gardens. The ranger taught us about different types of leaves that are traditionally used in a Smoking Ceremony and about bush medicine.

We made handprints on calico (a piece of cloth) with ochre (a piece of chalk-like rock) that we prepared ourselves. We also played bush cricket and we learnt how to throw spears with a *Woomera* (a throwing stick). Some of us even spotted a koala in the top of the tree!

Malika Gerlofsma - Koorie Co-Ordinator











# **Student of The Week**



	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
00 <i>A</i>	Mitchell M	Ruby B	Elijah L
00E			
00K		Chelsea P & Devansh	
010H			
12M			
12J		Zanthia B, Clinton M, Sophia S	
12K			
12X	Heidi & Jayden	Carter & Emma	Alier & Maggie
12R		Scarlet W	Ruvee K
34 <i>C</i>	Hailey M	Franklin S	Kelsey A
34L		Ethan F & Lacey W	
34M		Allirah W & Lisa G	
34W	Noah W	Bonnie S	Noah V
45B			
45J	Xanthe H		
56D			
56L	Elijah B	Tyson H	
56J	Taylah E		
Performing Arts			
Visual Art			
PE			
Auslan			

# **Community News**



## **Stir Crazy Kids**

Stir Crazy Kids Canteen would like to thank the Pakenham Hills Primary School and families for your support during 2023.



Our canteen operator, Carmel, has absolutely enjoyed the interaction with the Students during the year.

Our canteen closes on 15th December 2023.

We will resume on Thursday 1st February 2024, returning operation of the canteen on Monday, Thursday and Friday each week.

Stay safe and enjoy the holidays.

Donna Oehm

Director

www.stircrazykids.com.au

