



Middle Indigo Primary School

9/2/2021



Welcome to 2021

Welcome to 2021 to all students, staff and community. We hope this year is a little more settled than last year. Having said that the shadow of Covid still hangs over much of the operation of the school and we will continue to abide by the guidelines set out by the Victorian Department of Health. Currently we are still requiring facemasks for visitors in the school buildings and requesting parents pick up and drop off students in the carpark. Covid has already seen our annual Life Saving Event on the Murray River cancelled; but never fear we have a fun swim sport day coming soon.

In the classrooms, we have begun the start of year testing in Numeracy and literacy. This sets the benchmark for the students learning throughout the year and sets the growth mark for report writing in the midyear and end of year.

The school has twenty nine students this year. Eleven in the junior class and eighteen in the senior class. Students went straight to work from day one and the senior class has already completed early projects and made a start on their math books and IXL reading and math.

Staffing

Mrs Skate will be teaching on Mondays for this term as she has a family commitment for this term. She will then return for four days a week from term two. Mrs Edwards will be teaching five days a week until term two, when she will return to a four-day week.

In the meantime, we have Mrs O'Sullivan (Mrs O) teaching the senior class every Tuesday for term one. Mrs O has been our go to Relief Teacher for the last twelve months and knows the students and staff, and routine of our school well. So a big welcome and thankyou to Mrs O for stepping in this term.

In other news Mrs Ruth McLean (Ruth) will be working with a number of students in a one to one setting working on developing literacy and numeracy



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skills with the students. The extra teaching is part of the department's "Tutor Learning Initiative," introduced this year as part of the Covid funding packages for schools. Ruth has a great rapport with the students as well as a deep knowledge of their learning needs.

Music Classes

In other staffing news, we are happy to welcome Ms Miram Briggs to our school. Ms Briggs is teaching music class each week as well as running a half hour choir session each week in class time. The classes have been fantastic with much clapping, thumping, singing, piano, drumming and laughter. In addition, the choir has been a delight from the get go. Ms. Briggs has the students engaged from the moment they step in the door. We are very excited to see what happens with the choir this year as well as what Ms. Briggs may come up with for the Arts Festival this year!



Birthday Cakes have been running hot in the last week or two. Happy Birthday to Elyse, Ryan, Brock and Olivia.

Annual Improvement Plan

Each year our school sets out an Annual Improvement Plan (AIP). The plan sets the learning focus for the year and adds goals and actions to improve our students learning. This year we have set reading improvement as our goal. As such, we will direct more resources to reading over the year. We have also joined with Wooragee School to invite a visiting leading teacher to help with reading goals in the classroom over the year. We are expecting to have our visiting teacher in place in the next few weeks, working with both students and staff.

The other goal of the AIP is a statewide focus on student mental health and physical activity. The goal aims to include outside play and physical activity in many aspects of our learning. Therefore, you can expect to see and hear of students learning outdoors and physical activities being part of projects, math and science over the year.

Books Books Books



As part of our Reading focus, I have had the pleasure of purchasing a number of books for the school. The books are primarily focused on the senior class for this term, but rest assured we will be purchasing more books each term for the year.

Can I just say, buying books for a school is a genuine delight!

Titles include Tin Tin, Asterix, Wolf Girl, Percy Jackson, Star Wars, Nevermore, Robin Hood, Nim's Island, Sky Dragon, Hotdog and I survived the Titanic, to name just a few.

Books will arrive from Wednesday this week. Yipee!



Grade Two Gentlemen – Working Hard

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Funding Grant

I am very happy to announce that our grant to extend the basketball court to a full sized court with new backboard and ring has been successful. We have been granted \$35,000 to complete the works. We will be using the services of local family Bob Garvey and Butko engineering.

We are hoping the works will be completed by the end of term. The actual works will take at least a week to complete and there will be some disruption to play and play space. A temporary fence will keep students clear of the works.

Sadly the Blue Wall will have to come down.

We are deciding on an appropriate event to celebrate the new court on completion. More news to follow.



The Big Blue Wall will be replaced with a full sized Basketball Court



Staffroom Jungle is coming along

Swimming Sports

Swimming Sports will be held on Friday the 19th of February at the Chiltern Pool. The students will arrive at 10:00am and we should have the events running by 10:30. Year's three to six can compete in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly. The swimming events are timed over 50mt, or two laps of the pool. Student are encourage to have a go in as many events as they want, but it is their choice. I would hope most students will go in at least one event.

The senior class will then have a number of unofficial events, including best dive, pick up coins, dive stick and of course the highlight – The Bomb!!!

The junior students will be in the mid pool and will have a number of swim events. Freestyle, breaststroke and doggy paddle races. Jumping races, catch the corks and bob for coins and catch the dive sticks as well. Confident juniors will of course be allowed to enter "The Bomb!" as well.



Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons will commence from Monday 1st March through to the Friday of that week.

Lessons begin at 12:15 till 1:00pm. The bus will leave school at 11:40 and return by 1:45pm. Lesson are at The Wodonga Leisure.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Important Dates

19th Feb Swimming, Chiltern pool 10:00 – 12:30

1st – 5th March Swimming lessons Wodonga Leisure centre 12:15 to 1:00pm



Bringing Up Great Kids

This 6 week program run by Gateway Health aims to help parents of children 2 - 12 years of age to learn positive respectful ways to parent and relate to their children.

Topics include:

- **Myself as a parent**
- **Parenting styles**
- **Helping children manage strong feelings**
- **Learning about your children's needs**
- **Ways to create a positive relationship with your child**
- **Coping with the ups and downs of parenting**
- **Self care and moving forward**



Gateway Health

155 High St,
Wodonga

Training Room (G10)

Time: 10am to 12pm



Thursdays

25th February to 1st
April 2021

What do I pay?

FREE



Bookings Essential

To book or ask a
question contact the
Intake Team

Ph: (02) 6022 8888



Tuning into Kids

A 5 week face-to-face program for parents/carers of children 2-10 years of age that helps you tune into your children's emotions and manage their behaviour.

Learn about:

- “Emotion coaching” - helping children to understand and regulate their emotions.
- Responding to your children's individual needs in ways that suit the child and the family.
- Problem solving and managing strong feelings.
- Using children's emotional experiences as an opportunity for connection and teaching.



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Wodonga
Training Room (G10)
Time: 10am to 12pm



Saturdays
27th February to 27th
March 2021

What do I pay?

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