

NEWSLETTER

COLAC SOUTH WEST P. S.
PHONE: 52 32-1170

Respect Engage Achieve Care Honesty

Colac South West Primary School is a Child Safe School.

colac.sw.ps@education.vic.gov.au
<http://www.colac-sw-ps.vic.edu.au>

9th February 2023

Vision Statement: *At Colac South West Primary School we will provide opportunities for all students to achieve to a high standard in a supportive, challenging and engaging environment where all members proudly display the values of **Respect, Engage, Achieve, Care and Honesty** in order to equip them with the necessary skills and values to prepare them for the future.*

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

PROTECT



Colac South West Primary School is committed to the **child safe standards**.

These standards are in place at our school to prevent and respond to allegations of child abuse.

Should you need further advice or wish to report a concern regarding child abuse you can contact:

- Colac South West Primary School Principal - Mr. Stephen Barry on 5232 1170
- DHHS Child protection on 131278
- Colac Police on 5232 8200 or call 000

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY



Colac South West Primary School is located in Gulinidjan Country of the Maar Nation.

We pay our respects to the Gulinidjan people - past, present and emerging, as the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we live, work and play.

STUDENT PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

The school offers yard supervision from 8.45am & after school until 3.30pm. Parents are reminded that there is no teacher supervision outside of these times. Children are invited to attend Breakfast Club on Tuesday and Wednesday between 8:20am and 8:50am.

All staff have a Briefing from 8.30- to 8.45am each Friday.



School Calendar

T E R M 1	
FEBRUARY	
Thursday 23 rd February	Meet and Greet Interviews
MARCH	
Thursday 9 th March	Welcome BBQ 5.30pm – 7.00pm



All government schools in Victoria have a school council. The School Council is the group of people who are given the power to set the key directions for the school. This means that School Council can directly influence the quality of education that a school provides to its students. The School Council supports the principal to provide the best possible educational outcomes for students.

The School Council has particular functions in setting and monitoring the school's direction. School Councils have three main responsibilities: Finance – overseeing the development of the school's annual budget and ensuring proper records are kept of the school's financial operation. Strategic Planning – participating in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan. Policy Development and Review – developing, reviewing and updating policies that reflect a school's values and support the school's broad direction outlined in its strategic plan.

Being on School Council is a great way to get involved and have a real say in what your school is doing for its students. It is a great way to help current and future students by helping to set the future direction for the school. Being actively involved in the life of the school (even if this is for the most part only at monthly meetings), is a great way to take an interest in your children's education and for them to see the commitment you have made to their school.

In essence, the role is one of setting the long-term future for the school and maintaining oversight of the school's operation. It is not about running the school, employing staff or assigning children to classes – that is the job of the principal. In 2023 school council elections must be completed by March 31st.

Have a great week!
Steve Barry
Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

The following timetable outlines our school election procedure. Nomination forms can be collected from the office. Vacancies for 2023 include 2 parent representatives and 1 staff representative.

CSW SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE	
a) Notice of election and call for nominations.	Friday 10 th February, 2023
b) Closing date for nominations and deciding if a ballot is required.	Friday 17 th February, 2023
c) Date by which ballot paper will be prepared and distributed.	Friday 24 th February, 2023
d) Close of ballot.	Friday 3 rd March, 2023
e) March School Council Meeting (AGM). First council meeting to elect office bearers.	Wednesday 15 th March, 2023

Our first school council meeting for 2023 will be held on Wednesday 15th February starting at 6.30 pm.

SCHOOL REVIEW

As part of the improvement cycle, each Victorian government school undertakes a review every four years. The school community completes a comprehensive self-evaluation against the FISO 2.0 continua of practice, which involves students, teachers and community members.

An independent analysis is also completed of a school's performance against their goals and targets in their school strategic plan. The review evaluates the school's strengths, areas for improvement and the impact of its improvement efforts. At the end of the review, a new four-year school strategic plan is created and endorsed by the school community.

Our School Review is fast approaching with Validation Day occurring on Thursday 16th February. As part of the School Review process, we will be organising a Parent Focus group. The Parent Focus group will be asked various questions by the School Review panel about our school's strengths and areas for improvements. The parent focus group will be held on Monday 20th or Tuesday 21st February. Exact times will be confirmed on Validation Day and the session will take approximately 30 – 40 minutes.

If you are interested being a part of the Parent Focus Group please contact the office on 5232 1170 and indicate your preferred day and available times.

OUTBREAKS OF VIRAL GASTROENTERITIS

A nasty Gastro outbreak has been affecting a number of our students over the course of the past week. Other schools have also reported children affected by Gastroenteritis.

Schools have previously received the following advice in light of cases of viral gastroenteritis (gastro) outbreaks in Victoria.

Gastro is particularly infectious and can be spread in the following ways:

- through person-to-person contact
- through the air when a person vomits
- via contact with contaminated items and surfaces.

IDENTIFYING A GASTRO OUTBREAK

A gastro outbreak may be defined as two or more cases of vomiting or diarrhoea among children or staff within 48 hours of each other and where the symptoms cannot be explained by medication or other medical conditions.

HELPING PREVENT GASTRO

While alcohol-based hand sanitisers are recommended to prevent transmission of COVID-19, they are not effective for dealing with many of the viruses that cause gastro. The most effective ways to prevent gastro are:

- wash hands thoroughly with soap and running water for 20 seconds, especially before preparing or eating meals and after using the toilet
- anyone (staff and students) who develops vomiting or diarrhoea should stay home for 48 hours after their symptoms have passed, as they may still be infectious during this period
- clean and sanitise facilities following Department of Health guidelines
- see a GP for advice and testing if symptoms are severe or persist.

TREATING GASTRO

The most important treatment of gastro is **hydration**. Frequent small sips of water or rehydration fluids can help keep your fluid levels up and avoid the dreaded dehydration. Even crunching on ice chips can ensure you are getting some fluid in.

SUPPORT

Importantly, we need your support as parents in this matter so as to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children and staff. It is very important to **keep your child/children at home if they are showing any signs of gastro**. It can spread very easily and fast to the other children and class teachers and make them unwell, too.

If you have any other questions and or concerns be sure to chat with your healthcare practitioner.

MEET AND GREET INTERVIEWS

The 'Meet the Teacher' interviews are being held on Thursday 23rd February. This is an opportunity for parents to meet with their child's teacher and share information to ensure a productive start to the school year. Bookings for interviews will be made via Compass and instructions on how to make a booking will be sent home next week. Interviews are for 10 minutes and bookings will open at 9.00am on Tuesday 14th February and will close at 9.00am on Tuesday 21st February.

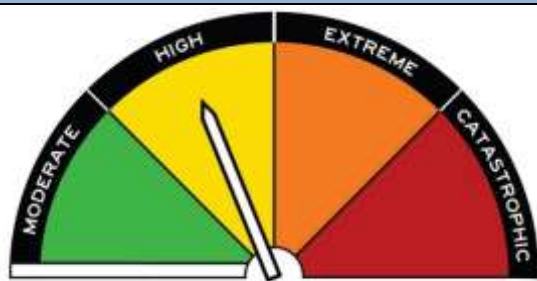
Miss Baulch will contact families in relation to Student Support Group meetings.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

As a school we do as much as we can to protect and care for injured students including first aid, notifying parents and emergency contacts if students are injured or hurt, and if necessary, an ambulance is called. Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refunded by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from that fund. The Department of Education and Training does not hold accident insurance for school students. Reasonably low-cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector and these can be obtained by parents for their children.

From time to time, we find ourselves in the position that we need to call an ambulance to help a child, either due to an injury, severe asthma or other medical needs. When we make a decision as to whether to call an ambulance or not, we focus on the medical needs we are dealing with and then if an ambulance is called, parents are responsible for any medical expenses such as ambulance costs incurred if their child is injured or requires an ambulance at school, or whilst participating in a school activity. May I encourage you to have up-to-date ambulance cover in the event that an ambulance is required for your child?

CODE RED FIRE DAY – CSW ON THE BUSHFIRE AT-RISK REGISTER – CATEGORY 4



FIRE DANGER RATINGS

Our school is listed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR). Schools, kindergartens and licensed childcare centres that have been identified as being high fire risk on the Department's Bushfire At-Risk Register and Category 4 will close on days determined Code Red by the Emergency. The following link takes you to our school webpage where you can read our Code Red Day procedures. [Code Red Fire Days](#) (colac-swps.vic.edu.au)

TERM 1 BBQ – KEEP THE DATE FREE

This year's Open Classroom BBQ and Picnic will be held on **Thursday 9th March from 5.30p.m. to 7.00p.m.** The Term 1 BBQ is an opportunity for students to show and share with their families their classroom and possibly some work that they have completed so far this year. The Open Classrooms will be from 5.3pm – 6.00pm and will be followed immediately after by the BBQ/sausage sizzle. School Council funds this event, and as such, there is no cost to families.

Please keep this date free and we look forward to seeing as many families there as possible. Further details and a note will be sent out closer to the event. This is a great opportunity for families to come together and get to know each other.

ART ROOM NEWS

This year our school will be participating again in the Colac Otway Arts Trail. Last year our students created a spectacular plastic bottle top mural for the school fence line project that is still on display today. In the coming weeks, our students will begin working on a piece for the 2023

trail. If possible, could families please start collecting

clear plastic soft drink and water bottles for this project. There will be lots of house points given out for your kind donations. In addition to participating in the school fence line project, our Year 6 students have been invited to create artworks for the Art Showcase & Exhibition which will be held on the 15th and 16th April at Colac East Primary School.



Reminder to town bus travellers

Bus passes will expire on February 28th. New passes are available at **Christians Bus Co Office 9am – 4pm by phoning 52312203.**

Passes are again \$118 and valid until Jul 31st 2023 (this equates to half price travel) These passes are available for new travellers too. Otherwise, fares remain the same:

\$1.20 Single \$2.40 Return \$11.20 Weekly



Some of our **Year 6 students** made up Vegemite and cheese sandwiches this week.

These sandwiches are stored in the freezer for students who forget to bring their lunch to school.

If you forget your lunch or snack just come to the office and they will be able to help you out.

Thanks to Brock, Kiarah and Ms Morris.



3rd/4th Colac Scout Group

New Members Always Welcome

Joey Scouts - ages 5-8

Cub Scouts - ages 8-11

Scouts - ages 11-14

Venturers - ages 14-18

Adventure, Imagination, Youth Led Education and being outdoors during weekly sessions, sleepovers and camps.

Build Confidence, Independence, Team Work and Leadership in a Supportive and Welcoming Environment.

Less screens - and more ACTION, more FUN, more FRIENDS, and more SOCIAL SKILLS!

Scouting is amazing!






Enquiries:






gl.3rd-4thcolac@scoutsvictoria.com.au

Peter Gavens 0429 312 347

STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week!

<p>Year Prep Mrs Ellis</p>	<p>Our wonderful little preps have had a great first week!</p> 
<p>Room 3 Miss Gappa</p>	<p>Leah Kirkman</p> <p>Has demonstrated: RESPECT, ENGAGE, ACHIEVE, CARE and HONESTY Leah has started each day this week with a positive attitude and friendly smile towards all our class activities. She has worked co-operatively with her new class members and has shown a willingness to give anything a go.  She has been an active participant when discussing and setting our class rules and expectations. Leah is always organised and ready to approach each task, giving her personal best. You set a wonderful example for others Leah. Well done. You are a star!</p>
<p>Room 4 Miss Watts</p>	<p>Connor Wolfe</p> <p> Has demonstrated: Respect, Engage, Achieve & Care Connor has been an absolute superstar this week! He has come into the classroom determined to complete his best work in everything that he does. Connor has started Grade 2 with the mindset to Achieve all his goals and work hard in every task. He has ensured that he has included a large amount of detail in every piece of work he has completed and he has contributed to class discussions with great ideas. Thank you for a wonderful start to the year Connor! I look forward to seeing what the year will bring for you!</p>
<p>Room 6 Miss Rodgers</p>	<p>Ryder Saddington</p> <p>Ryder should be exceptionally proud of the way he has started Year 1 and his time in Room 6. It has been wonderful to see him try his best and complete every piece of his work with a smile. Ryder has modelled the 5 L's of listening for new students and has enjoyed receiving praise for making good choices. It was lovely to hear him help other students and also explain to an adult in our room, how to cut and glue work together. Ryder has enjoyed making new friends within the class and has been helpful and supportive towards new students.  Congratulations on a fantastic week Ryder and keep up the great work!</p>
<p>Room 5 Miss Harris</p>	<p>Zayne Ellen</p> <p> Has demonstrated: Respect, Engage, Achieve, Care and Honesty Zayne has begun his year as a year 4 tremendously! He has demonstrated all the five R.E.A.C.H values this week in the classroom and outside in the yard. Zayne has shown Respect by listening to the instructions given and actively listening to his peers sharing. He has shown Engage and Achieve this week by buckling down and flying through his book covers. It has been great to see Zayne show Care by taking his time with his work and showing that he can work to his fullest potential.</p>

	<p>I hope to see Zayne continue this work ethic for the rest of the term. Keep it up Zayne, I am very proud of you and your efforts!</p>
<p>Room 8</p> <p>Mrs Boyle</p>	<p>Jay Newell </p> <p>Jay has had a fantastic start to the year! He has such an inquisitive mind and this has come out in our class discussions. His ideas and opinions he put forward have made such a positive impact to our classroom expectations. Jay has been polite and well-mannered and considerate of others in our room. His effort and Engagement in every task have been outstanding! Keep up this great attitude Jay, you are a star!!</p> <p>Kade Garcia</p> <p> It has been wonderful to have Kade at school every day this week and on time! He is setting himself up for a fantastic year! Kade has Engaged in every activity and is showing himself to be a vital member of Room 8. Keep up this great attitude Kade, you are a star!!</p>
<p>ART</p> <p>Mrs Allan</p>	<p>Arliyah Howland</p> <p>For demonstrating Respect, Engage, Achieve, Care and Honesty. Congratulations Arliyah on a great session in Art last week. Arliyah was very engaged creating her word art and should be proud of her efforts. She worked independently and took great care with her work. Congratulations, Arliyah!</p> 
<p>Music</p> <p>Catherine Trewavas</p> 	<p>Alec Crosbie </p> <p>Congratulations Alec, you are the Star of the Week in music. Alec has had a wonderful start to the year and it was pleasing to see him Engaging with each activity during our first music class for 2023. Alec offered thoughtful suggestions about how we can demonstrate our REACH values when participating in music, and these were greatly appreciated. He was flexible and cooperative when working in groups and his Care for others was wonderful to observe. Alex demonstrated Respect for his classmates and teacher, through listening and showing interest in others' opinions. Congratulations Alec!</p>

School Canteen will resume Friday 17th February
Canteen is only available on Fridays

Canteen Price List 2023

Available Fridays

Please have your order in the Qkr! online ordering system by **9am**

Please check your child details and order date before placing order

Prices in effect as of the 1st Feb 2023

Pie	\$4.80
Pastie	\$4.80
Party Pie	\$2.50
Sausage Roll	\$3.80
Egg and Bacon Pie	\$5.50
Chicken Pie	\$5.50
Vegetarian Roll	\$4.00
Tomato Sauce	.50
Chicken or Ham Salad Roll	\$6.80
Muffin (blueberry, choc-chip)	\$2.20
Iced Donut	\$2.60
Fresh Fruit	1.00
Juice Box (apple, orange)	\$2.50
Flavoured Milk (chocolate, strawberry)	\$2.50

Your Canteen service is proudly provided by

Food-A-Roma Catering

0428 521 534

far@skillsconnection.org.au

