

# 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](mailto:colac.sw.ps@education.vic.gov.au)  
<http://www.colac-sw-ps.vic.edu.au>

**25<sup>th</sup> May 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 2	
MAY	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Staff Professional Practice Day – Report Writing – <b>Students not required at school on this day</b>
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	<b>RECONCILIATION WEEK</b>
JUNE	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	6.00pm – Finance Meeting 6.30pm – School Council
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Last Day Term 2 – 2.30pm Finish

A reminder that **tomorrow**, Friday 24th May is a pupil free day. Students will therefore not be required to attend school on this day.



Dear Parents,

At the beginning of the 2023 school year, our school completed a review process that analysed school performance, processes, and programs over the past four years. An important part of this process was gathering and considering staff, parent, and student voice. The findings and recommendations from the review were then used

this year to develop a new 4-year Strategic Plan. Our School Council endorsed this plan which has now also been endorsed by the Department of Education and Training.

Last week I shared with our school community our schools' Values and School Philosophy which will be included within the new Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026. Below are our school's Goals, Targets and Key Improvement Strategies. This will form the work we will undertake over the next four years. Consulting with our school community is an important process in developing our Strategic Plan and if you would like to comment on these Goals, Targets and Strategies please email me at [colac.sw.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:colac.sw.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

The two overarching goals, including the Targets and Key Improvement Strategies of our 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan are:

**Goal 1: *To increase student engagement and wellbeing.***

**4 year strategic Targets**

- To increase the percentage positive response on the Attitude to School Survey (Student Survey) factors:
  - School connectedness from 69% to 75%
  - Student voice and agency from 69% to 75%
  - Managing bullying from 70% to 75%
- By 2026, decrease the percentage of students with 20 or more absence days from 42% to 36%.
- To increase the percentage positive response on the Staff Opinion Survey factor "Staff trust in students and parents" from 71% to 75%

**Key Improvement Strategies**

- Embed a whole-school approach to student agency in learning and wellbeing.
- Embed a whole-school approach to improving attendance rates.

**Goal 2: *Optimise the learning growth of every student in literacy and numeracy.***

**4 year strategic Targets**

- By 2026, increase the percentage of students working at or above level against the Victorian Curriculum based on Teacher Judgement in:
  - Reading and Viewing from 86% to 90%
  - Writing from 81% to 85%
  - Number & Algebra from 83% to 88%
- Increase the four-year average percentage of students meeting or above Benchmark NAPLAN growth in:
  - reading from 72% to 75%
  - writing from 72% to 75%
- Maintain the four-year average percentage of students meeting or above Benchmark NAPLAN Growth in numeracy at 76%.
- By 2026, increase the percentage of students achieving one years' growth based on Teacher Judgement in:
  - Reading and Viewing from 82% to 85%

- Writing from 87% to 88%
- Number & Algebra from 78% to 85%
- Increase the percentage of positive response in Attitude to School Survey (Student Survey) "Stimulated learning" from 84% to 85%.
- To increase the percentage positive response on the Staff Opinion Survey factor "Academic emphasis" from 60% to 66%.

### Key Improvement Strategies

- Strengthen teachers use of High Impact Teaching Strategies in the classroom.
- Build staff capacity to improve numeracy and literacy outcomes.

Over the year I will continue to share the direction of the school with our community so that we can partner in achieving these goals and get the very best outcomes for our students.

Have a great week!

Steve Barry

Principal

### PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAY – Report Writing – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May - Reminder



As part of the new Industrial Agreement teachers have 2 Professional Practice Days, one of which is a combined day where all teachers have the same day. The second day is determined by the individual teacher.

As previously communicated teachers have elected to use the combined day for Report Writing. **This day is tomorrow, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Students are not required to attend school on this day.** Staff will use this day to write and proofread reports.

### STUDENT ATTITUDES TO SCHOOL SURVEY

This week all students in Years 4-6 were sent home with a note outlining the annual Student Attitudes to School Survey. This information sheet outlines what the survey is, why it is done, when it happens etc. After reading the information sheet, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. If you do not want your child to participate, please follow the steps outlined on the notice to OPT OUT. The survey is scheduled to take place between weeks 6 to 8 - (29/5/23 – 9/6/23).

### WINTER ILLNESS

With the arrival of colder weather, cases of influenza (the flu) are increasing throughout Victoria. We are at risk of higher rates of students and staff affected by the flu or COVID-19 this season.

#### What to do if your child gets sick

To help keep your child and our school community safe, please take the following steps if your child has any cold or flu -like symptoms:

- take a COVID-19 test and follow the current Department of Health isolation requirements if a positive result is shown
- keep your child at home until their symptoms pass
- common flu-like symptoms include a high fever, cough, runny nose, loss of appetite, body aches and feeling extremely weak and tired
- diagnosis of the flu can only be confirmed by a doctor after a nose or throat swab
- encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and ask them to cover their nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing.

#### Flu vaccination

Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and over. Some people are more at risk of complications from the flu and are eligible for free vaccination under the National Immunisation Program including:




- anyone aged 65 years and older

- pregnant women (at any stage of pregnancy)
- all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged from 6 months and over
- people 6 months or older with: heart disease, chronic lung disease (including people with severe asthma who require frequent hospital visits, chronic neurological conditions, impaired immunity, haemoglobinopathies (blood disorders caused by genetic changes), diabetes, kidney disease
- children on long-term aspirin therapy from 6 months to 10 years
- children aged from 6 months to under 5 years.








Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs and pharmacies, many of which can also provide COVID-19 vaccinations.

If you would like more information about the flu vaccination, visit the Better Health Channel.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

<p><b>Year Prep</b></p> <p><b>Mrs Ellis</b></p>	<p><b>Shiloh Buckle</b></p> <p>Shiloh has received her Star of the Week for all of our REACH values. She has been a wonderful helper in our classroom this week and always offers to help her friends. Shiloh is very caring to everyone and even helps the teachers get organised! She works hard during class and is eager to learn new things. This week Shiloh has been learning about ordinal numbers during math's time and has shown how confident she is at naming the position of objects from first to tenth! Keep up the hard work Shiloh.</p> 
<p><b>Room 3</b></p> <p><b>Miss Gappa</b></p>	<p><b>Eleanor Murch</b></p> <p>Eleanor displays all our REACH values each and every day. She works quietly and diligently during all sessions and this was especially evident this week, when completing her Siberian Tiger research. Eleanor has demonstrated persistence, care and her personal best by carefully and independently reading a number of websites to gain keywords and information. Eleanor did this in a timely manner, ensuring her research was completed on time. Well done Eleanor. You are a star!</p> 
<p><b>Room 4</b></p> <p><b>Miss Watts</b></p>	<p><b>Mahalia Shoul</b></p> <p>Well done Mahalia on a great couple of weeks of school! Mahalia has tried her best in everything that she has tried and she has really challenged herself to stretch her knowledge. She is willing to help people in the classroom and in the yard, showing great Care to others. She makes the classroom a brighter place to be with her bubbly personality. Thank you for being your wonderful self Mahalia! Keep up your hard work!</p> 
<p><b>Room 5</b></p> <p><b>Miss Harris</b></p>	<p><b>Koirannah Retallick</b></p> <p>Koirannah has had a tremendous week in Room 5. Koirannah's week was highlighted through his work in maths. We have been working on some new concepts such as BODMAS and he listened attentively and got straight to work. He put his head down to focus and was quick to finish his task. It was incredibly pleasing to see him help his fellow classmates solve some difficult problems by explaining his strategy on how he solved a question. I am continuously proud of Koirannah's efforts in the classroom, he is becoming such a responsible and respectful member of Room 5. Keep being you Koirannah!</p> <p><b>Pypah Spokes</b></p> <p>Pypah has had a tremendous week in Room 5 this week. She is an attentive listener who always focuses on the instructions so she can</p>



	<p>complete her task to her fullest potential. This week her work has not gone unnoticed. During our research project on an inspirational person for sustainability, she chose to research Autumn Peltier. Pypah has used her skills to find interesting information about her person and has gathered an extensive amount of information. She has gathered all of her information and placed this information into dot points. I cannot wait to see her final written speech for her to present for the class. Keep up the amazing work Pypah!</p> 
<p><b>Room 6</b> <b>Miss Rodgers</b></p>	<p><b>Rylee Campbell</b> It is always lovely to see Rylee think of others. She works hard to help her friends achieve success and think about ways that she can support and encourage their learning. Rylee enjoys sharing her thoughts during guided reading and asking meaningful questions. This then helps others to extend their understanding and connect with what they have read. Rylee loves to share her sense of fun and humour with her class and it is delightful to hear the effort and thought she puts into her show and tell. Thank you for always trying your best Rylee, being a thoughtful friend to others and enjoying learning!</p> 
<p><b>Room 8</b> <b>Mrs Boyle</b></p>	<p><b>Raphael Murch</b> Raphael has earned this Star of the Week from his peers! They all nominated him and decided his efforts and contributions to our opinion writing was outstanding! Raphael has demonstrated he is passionate about some topics and is not afraid to voice his point of view! We love how invested he gets and how he expresses his opinions in such an articulate way. We also love how he gets everyone else excited about his topic and his thoughts (especially Mrs Boyle) and how it encourages everyone to become passionate as well! Raphael, we love seeing this passionate and opinionated young man, keep it up. You are a star!!!!</p> 
<p><b>MUSIC</b>  <b>Miss Trewavas</b></p>	<p><b>Room 11</b> This week our musical stars of the week are all our wonderful students in Room 11! Every student in Room 11 deserves this award for the exceptional way they have worked together to create a fun, friendly and respectful music room this term. Everyone in Room 11 is engaged and enthusiastic when learning new songs and playing percussion instruments. They care for the instruments, listen well to each other, and use kind and encouraging words. Room 11 are working very hard in music and should be proud of their efforts and achievements. Congratulations, Room 11!</p>
<p><b>ART</b>  <b>Mrs Allan</b></p>	<p><b>Magenta Morrow</b> Congratulations Magenta on an excellent session in Art this week. Magenta worked with great focus and care. I was particularly impressed with her ability to work independently and blend the oil pastels together on her animal eyes. Keep up the wonderful work, Magenta!</p> 
<p><b>Physical Education</b> <b>Mrs Turner</b></p>	<p><b>London Lofts</b> <b>Ally Chirgwin</b> <b>Brock Finn</b></p> 

## COLAC SOUTH WEST FUNDRAISING PIE DRIVE

This year we are having a Pie Drive through Hulm's Bakery to help raise funds for our school. These funds will go towards improvements for our playgrounds & other student related projects.

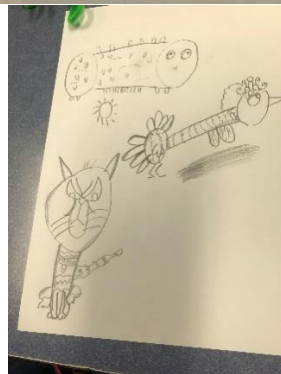
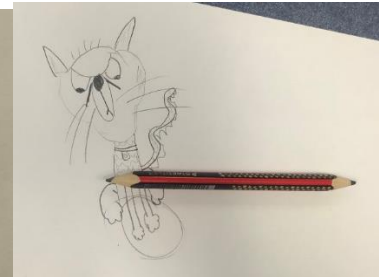
Order forms have been sent home today. **Order forms & money** need to be returned to school by **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023**.

Orders will be ready for collection in the first week of Term 3, you will be notified when they are available.

## EDUCATION WEEK

### Education Week activities

Last week Year 1 and Year 2 students enjoyed a Webex author discussion with the author and illustrator of Whitney and Britney as part of Education Week. They enjoyed learning to express themselves through drawing and how to draw sea cucumbers, disco diva chickens and grumpy cats. Well done to all students on trying again when things didn't necessarily work out how they wanted it to the first time. You all did a great job stepping out of your comfort zones and having a go.



Last Tuesday afternoon, students from Prep to Year 4 enjoyed an online incursion hosted by Science Works. Students learnt about rainbows and light and how light can bend, be refracted and how white light is created. Rylee and Room 4 were very excited to have their question answered by the presenter which was a highlight. Everyone was amazed to learn that bees can see UV light as well and these act as targets on flowers.



**Happy Birthday** to this student. We hope you had a wonderful Birthday!!  
**Tallyn Lubke**



# Get involved!

## Be your Best Self Online



STOP • THINK • ACT

National eSmart Week  
22 - 28 May 2023



This week students have been learning about the importance of staying safe online. Conversations in classrooms have focused on; keeping passwords private, stranger danger, only sharing images and information with people you know, asking for consent, being aware that once you post a picture you no longer have control of it, touching other people's technology, following our ICT user agreements and how scams and scammers work. Thank you to all teachers who have engaged in these conversations by discussing real life examples, books, videos and other websites to enhance their student's learning. Below are some tips and conversation starters to discuss with your child if you would like to talk about this at home.

## Being a positive digital citizen means...

Keeping personal information private

Protecting my digital reputation

Standing up to and reporting cyber bullying

Following my school's Acceptable Use Agreement

Thinking before I post

Respecting others and myself

Giving credit to other people's ideas and work

Keeping balance in my life

Be your Best Self Online



STOP • THINK • ACT

National eSmart Week: 22 - 28 May 2023

## Be an upstander to cyber bullying

Send the person being targeted a supportive message

Invite the person to join another group

Encourage the person to report the behaviour

Change the topic

Tell the person doing it to cut it out

Report the poor behaviour to an adult

Be your Best Self Online



STOP • THINK • ACT

National eSmart Week: 22 - 28 May 2023



# School Holiday Program

27TH, 28TH & 29TH JUNE

## A DAY ON THE FARM

Join us for a fun-filled day on the farm at Common Ground Project. An opportunity for young people to connect with food and farming.

Experience a 'Day in the Life of a Farmer'

Sow and harvest produce

Feed the chickens

Learn about farming

Meet new people



9am - 3pm

Suitable for children aged 8-14

\$70 + GST per person

*This program is subsidised through a partnership with VicHealth.*



For more information and to book a spot in the program, please visit our website.

[www.commongroundproject.com.au](http://www.commongroundproject.com.au)

675 Anglesea Rd Freshwater Creek, 3217

**COMMON  
GROUND**  
*project*

