

CHATHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 – 11 FEBRUARY 2022

BE SAFE BE FAIR BE KIND

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Year 6 School Camp at Lakewood Camp, Forge Creek - East Gippsland

On Tuesday morning our Assistant Principal, Georgina Kirwan and I visited the school camp. Whilst I have usually made 'flying visits' to this venue in the past it was wonderful to spend two days there and witness first-hand how superb this experience is for our students. It was also marvellous to witness the level of professionalism and capacities of the camp staff in every area of the camp's operation. I would further attest the four hours plus time spent to reach this venue was well and truly worthy of the effort. It was fabulous to see the joy and enthusiasm of our students who had not been able to experience a school camp in 2020 and 2021. The thirty-five students along with Mr Rafael Fernandez, Mrs Jessica Wilson, Ms Tanya Dolence and Ms Sue Minshull were thoroughly engrossed in the activities and events. On Tuesday our students were able to enjoy stand up paddle boarding; tubing behind the speed boat; sailing, archery, orienteering and a low ropes course. Additionally, the facilities provided at this camp are without peer and the food provided was of a high quality. On Wednesday our students participated in the boat trip to Raymond Island seeing firsthand a large number of koalas and other wildlife. Later they enjoyed swimming and jumping off the pier and other activities. We look forward to our students and staff returning this afternoon. I could not recommend this venue and program more strongly.

Year 4 & 5 School Camp to Arrabri Lodge, East Warburton

At this stage we are looking forward to conducting our Year 4 & 5 Camp at this venue on Monday – Wednesday 7-9th March 2022. This is again a venue well known to our students and staff. The program provided is particularly suited to students at this level. For both Year 4 and 5 students this represents the first of such a camping experience at Chatham Primary School. Again, I am delighted that our staff are prepared to undertake school camps, particularly at this extremely demanding and largely unpredictable time. The planning and organisation for a School Camp is considerable and schools are required to meet stringent requirements in order to conduct such an experience. Next week our Camp coordinator Mrs Jessica Wilson will confer with staff and myself about the arrangements to be undertaken. I expect parents of students in Years 4 & 5 will receive communications and details early next week. Let us hope that the extent of COVID at Chatham is minimal and we can proceed with confidence.

Furthermore, all overnight experiences are required to also be formally approved by the School Council, in addition to meeting Department of Education and Training requirements. Our next School Council meeting is scheduled for Monday 21st February.

Rapid Antigen Test Kits

We are obliged to make these available for parents to collect and did so this morning between 9.00am – 9.30am. For those parents who did not collect their kits, their child's RAT was placed in their school bag today. At this stage we are not certain what the arrangements will be going forward and whether further RAT kits will be made available. Again, we encourage parents to complete the testing on Monday and Thursday mornings and advise us promptly if a positive COVID-19 case is diagnosed. Again, we will endeavour to keep you informed of any further Department of Education and Training directives in this regard. The policy in this area seems to readily change and be adapted for implementation in schools.

Compass Communications - COVID

Currently schools are obliged to report positive COVID cases to staff and parents. Once a parent notifies us that their child is positive based upon RAT or a PCR, parents and staff will be advised. Generally communication is sent out to parents relating to the year level of the child diagnosed as positive, encouraging them to be mindful that this has occurred and that if their child has symptoms, they should get tested. Please be advised that where a positive case is reported, the name of the child, for reasons of privacy, is withheld.

Attached to this newsletter is information which encourages parents to get their primary-aged children vaccinated.

Physical Education and Sport

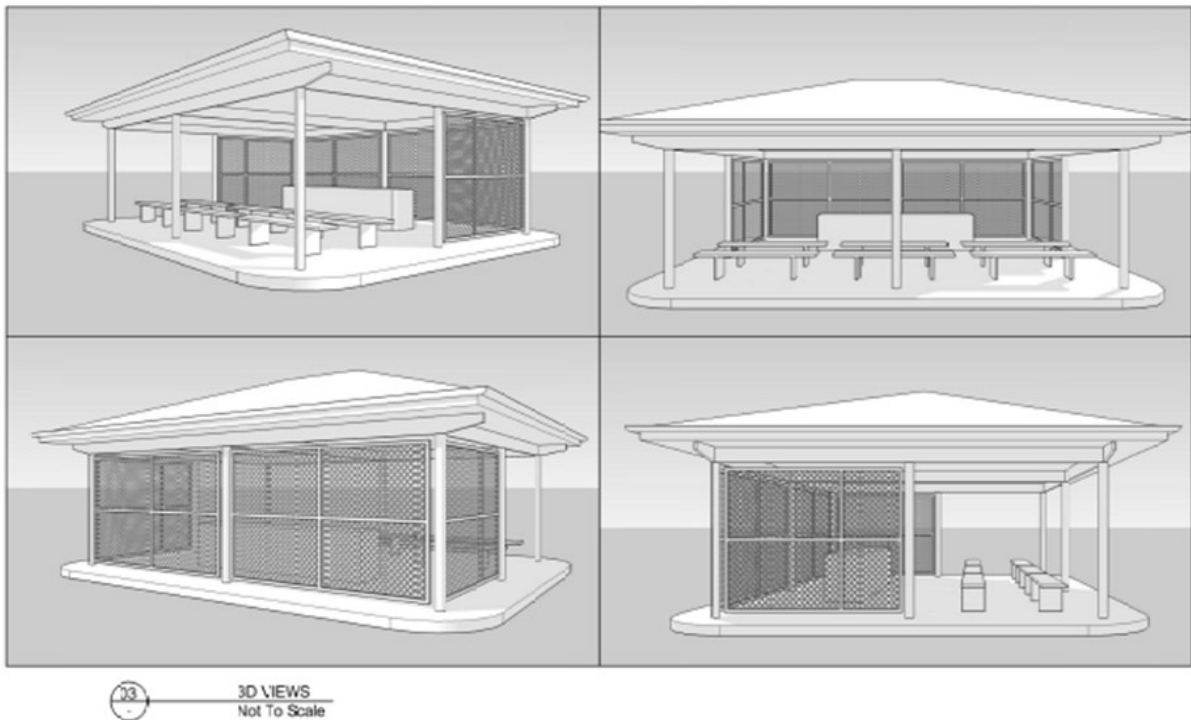
Recently I wrote to our parents inviting them to support our Interschool Sport competitions and associated arrangements. I am delighted with the response, with a number of parents being prepared to assist with Interschool Sport when it continues and other House or District Sports Events. At Chatham this includes House and District Swimming, House and District Cross-Country and amongst other pursuits House and District Athletics. The first of such events will be occurring at Bialik College in Tooronga Road on Wednesday 16th February. Unfortunately, because of COVID restrictions a ruling has been made by the venue that parents and visitors are unable to attend. Our District Swimming Carnival is scheduled for Wednesday 23rd February 2022. We look forward to our students being involved albeit with some different arrangements. Our Physical Education and Sport Teacher, Mrs Jessica Wilson will be in contact with those parents who had expressed a preparedness to be involved in 2022.

Outdoor Learning Spaces – Chatham Kitchen Garden and Chatham Outdoor Learning Area

Broadly we have two areas being developed along this theme at the moment. On Thursday 10th February I met with Richard Bryant our senior architect along with officers from the *Victorian School Building Authority* and contractors from *Johns Lyng Group* to progress our plans for the Chatham Kitchen Garden. Unfortunately, the COVID disruptions caused considerable delays in our project plans and implementation throughout 2020 and 2021. These delays have been considerable given that we were allocated up to \$200,000 by the State Government to progress this project in 2019. Early in the development of this project our parents and staff were consulted and inevitably we needed to progress back to the 'drawing board' once it became clear that our Tram Project could not proceed and that the costs of earlier plans were prohibitive. Nevertheless, we have devised a revised plan which will provide opportunities for our students and staff in relation to the development of our vision for a Kitchen Garden, but also for considerable outdoor classroom use for other purposes. This is particularly relevant given the push by the Victorian Government to create additional learning areas outside of the conventional classrooms. Together we reviewed the site yesterday and considered the important safety and OH&S compliance matters involved in order to commence the project on 8th March. Please be advised that this will not cause any compromise to other school programs or undue disruptions to other parts of the school. We were advised that this project should be completed by the end of April. Again, conceptual drawings of the facility are provided with this newsletter.

Our second focus refers to the construction of the Shade Structure located at the eastern side of the School Hall. Last week we received the \$20,000 from the *Victorian School Building Authority* to contribute to this project, with another \$5000 provided at project completion. This project has been awarded to *Melbourne Vergolas* at a cost of \$25,000. This will include three large picnic table combinations which when located and secured will enable a full class of students to enjoy learning in an outdoor space. For some months now the area has been cleared in readiness for the project. On Thursday I was advised that we were part of a small number of schools that have already gained approval to proceed. Importantly, the structure we have chosen not only creates shade, but also blocks almost all UV rays. Again, once these two areas are up and running, we anticipate creating a timetable to enable all to access the site over the course of the week. As an aside our Front Amphitheatre, finished in 2021 continues to be highly used by our students and staff.

We look forward to working with David Conway from *Melbourne Vergolas* before the end of this month to get this valuable initiative underway and finished.



Team Kids

We are delighted that this Out of School Hours Care provider is working with us at Chatham. In recent times we have met with the Director of Services, Ms Takara Huggar and other Team Kids personnel to discuss our plans going forward. In the coming week Team Kids will be implementing a *Lunchtime Legends* program on Tuesday 15th February for Years Preparatory to Year 2 and on Thursday 17th February for Year 3-6. The purpose of these experiences is to familiarise our students with the Team Kids staff and also be introduced to some of the activities and games that do occur in the Before and After School Care Program.

External Providers

Increasingly at Chatham Primary School we work with and encourage a wide range of external providers. This involves larger organisations like Creative Music for Schools; Uke for Kids, Ella Dance Fitness, Kids Unlimited (Chess); Chatham Challenges, and others including Kelly Tennis. Progressively these groups are working in and around our school in the spaces available over the course of the week. Additionally, we also have a number of private Tutors and Occupational Therapists, along with Speech Therapists and others who work with individual students. Please be advised that all such personnel are briefed in terms of COVID considerations, but also expectations in relation to the Victorian Child Safe Standards. If you have a request in this regard for your child, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance and we will endeavour to make arrangements to further support our students.

School Assemblies

At this stage we are unable to conduct School Assemblies in the School Hall and enjoy the involvement of parents. Providing the weather is suitable we will seek to conduct these at the front of the school and in this way, parents will be able to see proceedings. School Assemblies are very important events and do a great deal to enrich the culture of the school; build community engagement and interest, and importantly showcase and celebrate the achievement of our students. Our Year 6 students in particular have an important leadership function to perform in our school assemblies as their roles become more comprehensive and diverse as the year continues.

Student Leadership – Year 6

After the School Camp in early February it is customary for us to proceed through a process that enables all students at this level to perform a Leadership role. The process of electing and / or selecting students for leadership positions is highly prescribed given that it has occurred in the same accepted manner for many years. Together with the staff we have reviewed these roles for 2022 and will be trialling a slightly different focus for 2022. Many of our teaching staff have a support role in the development of leadership skills in our Year 6 students.

I look forward to keeping you informed across a range of areas in the coming weeks.

Christopher Cotching
Principal

The following are some of the key events for the next two weeks. This information will also be provided on our website at www.chathamps.vic.edu.au

Date	Event
Monday 14 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5:00pm Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday 16 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• House Swimming – Bialik College 9:30am – 1:00pm (Yrs 4 – 6)• Preparatory Testing – No Preparatory Students at School
Monday 21 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parent/Teacher Discussions• School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Tuesday 22 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parent/Teacher Discussions
Wednesday 23 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparatory Testing – No Preparatory Students at School• District Swimming Boroondara Sports Complex – Selected Students Only
Thursday 24 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Photos
Monday 28 Feb 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparatory Commence Full Week

It's been really fantastic to see such excitement around the return to school and we want to keep it that way. A crucial part of that is getting as many students vaccinated as possible.

Alongside ventilation and other vital COVIDSafe steps such as regular rapid antigen testing, supporting as many students as possible to be vaccinated will help make our school as safe as possible.

Bookings for children aged 5 to 11 to receive the paediatric Pfizer vaccine are open and we encourage parents and carers to get your child vaccinated, if you haven't already done so.

The [Pfizer vaccine is safe and recommended for children](#). The vaccine will help protect your child from getting sick from COVID-19, help to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and help ensure kids can have more time at school and playing with their friends.

Vaccinations for children aged 5-11 years old are delivered at 2 appointments, 8 weeks apart. Children with specific medical vulnerabilities can access their second dose 3 weeks after their first dose.

If you'd like more information about this, you can read a recent statement from the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI): <https://www.health.gov.au/news/atagi-update-following-weekly-covid-19-meeting-19-january-2022>

To book an appointment

You can book at your local GP or pharmacy: <https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/booking>

You can also book at a family-friendly vaccination centre by calling the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398.

You can also make vaccination centre bookings for your children online, though you will need to use an email address that has not been used in the system before: <https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au/>

Helping children to get their vaccination

Vaccination centres understand that children may feel anxious about vaccination or have other support needs. A range of options are available to help children get vaccinated. Please discuss your child's needs with the vaccination centre when you book an appointment.

Appointments are also available at Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Organisations.

👉 Find out more about vaccination for kids: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-information-children-and-teenagers>

PARENTS CLUB NEWS

chathamparentsclub@hotmail.com

IT'S A NEW YEAR AND WE'RE FEELING GOOD

Welcome back to what we hope is a year full of social and fundraising activities. We'd like to extend a warm Chatham welcome our wonderful community and especially to our new families and all the new preppies! We're looking forward to a fantastic year, although our famous social and fundraising calendar is still TBC. Once confirmed, we'll put a call out for people to lead our events, so if this sounds like you, drop us a line at chathamparentsclub@hotmail.com. Don't want to spearhead an event? That's cool, there are plenty of other ways to get involved, from setting up to spreading the word. Stay tuned!



MORE CHEERS THAN TEARS AT GROVEDALE PARK

It was wonderful to kick off the year with Tears and Cheers in Grovedale Park. A huge thank you to **Becky Nunan, Rebecca Henry, Zena Lomer, Marita Clayton** and **Claire Thomas** for organising, and to all the class reps for providing the food. Finally, a huge thanks to the new prep families for the great turn out.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR GRADE VIA WHATSAPP

If you haven't already, make sure you join your year level WhatsApp group. It's a great way to connect with people and get answers in a timely manner.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CPC TERM 1 MEETING FRI MARCH 5

LOCATION TBC

Grab a coffee and join us from 9.10am-10am at a yet to be determined location for the Term 1 Parents' Club meeting. Everyone is welcome!



Like

'Chatham Primary
Parents Club'

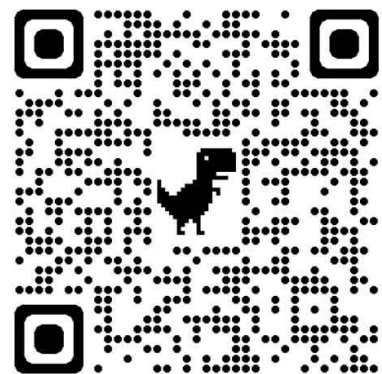
Our fb group is a great way to stay connected. Please join/add current parents if you haven't already.

Kids
Unlimited



Chess Club is BACK!

Wednesday
8:00 - 9:00am
Starts 16th of Feb



**FOR ENROLMENTS AND TRIALS
CONTACT US!**

1300 424 377 | info@kidsunlimited.com.au | kidsunlimited.com.au

CHATHAM TEAMKIDS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Last week was our first week at Team Kids Chatham. We spent the week familiarising ourselves with the areas and routines of Before and After School care.

Throughout last week we got to try out and experience a range of Clubs that Team Kids has to offer. Our favourite clubs included Cooking Club, STEM Club and Gardening Club.

In cooking this week we had the best time making Vegemite scrolls and pancakes. Whilst having fun and whipping up a storm in the Kitchen we also worked on our mathematical skills of measurements, addition and time management.

In STEM Club we learnt about the absorption of water by different materials, as well as how two or more colours can be used to make a range of other colours.

We all cannot wait for what next week has in store for us at Team Kids.

IMPORTANT DATES



TUESDAY 15th FEBRUARY

Teddy Bears Picnic| Afterschool

TUESDAY 1st March Pancake Day

Tuesday 1st March



TEAMKIDS CLUBS ASC WEEK: 2-3



MONDAY

Sports Club and Mindfulness Club

TUESDAY

STEM Club

WEDNESDAY

Cooking Club and Homework Club

THURSDAY

Art Attack Club and Number Bingo

FRIDAY

Gardening Club and Fun Friday



Service Mobile: 0412 147 589

Office Phone: 1300 035 000

Service Email: chathamps@teamkids.com.au

Office Email: info@teamkids.com.au

HELLO TERM 1



CHATHAM PRIMARY



Welcome to TeamKids
2022! We have an
EXCITING year planned.
See you soon!

What's on this term...



FEBRUARY

TEDDY BEARS
PICNIC

MARCH

END OF TERM
CELEBRATIONS!

APRIL

AUTUMN SCHOOL
HOLIDAYS

Team
Kids

JOIN OUR
FREE FUN!

LUNCHTIME
LEGENDS

RED LIGHT - GREEN LIGHT
CHUCK THE CHICKEN
DODGEBALL
AND SO MUCH MORE!

NEW TO TEAMKIDS?



WATCH OUR QUICK VIDEO
vimeo.com/638516418

HOW TO REGISTER?

Head to teamkids.com.au/register
Allow 10-15 min to set up your account.



HOW TO BOOK?

1. Sign in to your TeamKids account.
2. Select the following: » Add/change bookings » Care Type » Child's Name » Date (it will turn green).
3. Click "Next".
4. Double check your bookings and click "Confirm Changes".



See you soon!

AWESOME PARTIES
YUMMY SNACKS
HOLIDAY FUN
EPIC EVENTS
FUN CLUBS

BEFORE, AFTER + VACATION CARE
1300 035 000
BOOK IN & PLAY

Team
Kids

SCREEN
FREE FUN

teamkids.com.au | 1300 035 000

MOBILE 0412 147 589

Learn Music

here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play piano, keyboard, guitar, flute, clarinet, saxophone, violin, drums or trumpet here at Chatham Primary School.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-to-one lessons of up to 30 minutes give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Tuition costs from \$22.50 per lesson and enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term 1, 2022

Interested parents should contact Swee during office hours on 9818 2333 or via email: swee@creativemusic.com.au

 Creative Music

www.creativemusic.com.au



CHATHAM CHALLENGES

Dear Parents & Guardians

We have a change of teacher and topic for Term 1, 2022.

Some parents paid fees in Term 3, 2021 and these have been carried over if you did not seek a refund.

Please re-enrol or enrol and send the enrolment form to noelblacker@bigpond.com.

If you are unsure whether you have paid fees please check your records or contact me, Pat Truscott, on 0407 313 657.

Coming Up
Term 1, 2022 ...

"MICROSCOPES AND LENSES"
Chatham Primary School



The program will include understanding the microscope and how it works; the eye and the optic nerve; the history of the early microscope and how it developed; scientific drawing; the "brain train" with slides of "bugs and tiny mites"; structures and spaces under the microscope, the Law of Relativity and Greek and Latin roots.

Chatham Challenges Application for 1st Term, 2022

This program is available for all Grade 1 - Grade 6 children who have qualified

The unit for first term commences week beginning Monday 14th February 2022.

The unit will run for 8 weeks commencing: Monday 14th Feb, 21st Feb, 28th Feb, 7th Mar, 14th Mar, 21st Mar, 28th Mar and 4th April.

Teacher: Noel Blacker: Mobile 0409 435 396

X.....

I wish to enrol my child in the unit "Microscopes and Lenses" starting week beginning

Monday, 14th February 2022.

PLEASE RE-ENROL EVEN IF YOU ENROLLED IN 2021 AND PRE PAID FEES AT THAT TIME.

Child's Name _____ School: Chatham Primary School

Date of Birth _____ Class (2022) _____

Parents' Names _____

Address _____

Phone: BH _____ AH _____ Mobile _____ Email: _____

My child has already qualified for Chatham Challenges YES/NO

I would like a free test for my child YES/NO.

I would like my child to be tested with a fuller assessment (assessment cost \$500 inc GST).

The cost of the program is \$270.60 (fees \$246 plus GST of \$24.60).

To access the Chatham Challenges program for 1st Term 2022:

Please send the Enrolment form to Noel Blacker; email: noelblacker@bigpond.com by Thursday, 10th February 2022.

PLEASE RE-ENROL EVEN IF YOU ENROLLED IN 2021 AND PRE PAID FEES AT THAT TIME.

Payment of \$270.60 (inc GST) also needs to be received by Thursday 10th February 2022.

Payment: Access Re-Ed Services Pty Ltd, BSB 083218 Account No. 516636659 (Please include your Child's name, Grade and School so I know who the payment is for)

Please contact me, Pat Truscott, on mobile 0407 313 657 if you have any queries.

Bring out the best
in your child with
singing.



Enrolments for 2022 with the
Australian Youth Choir are
now open to boys and girls from
8 years of age.



A great opportunity to develop
singing, build confidence, self esteem
and make new friends in 2022.



Weekly rehearsals in Canterbury
during school Term with concerts
included in the year.

TRY OUT NOW FOR 2022

EMAIL OR CALL US

office2@niypaa.com.au or 9836 2877

**Take your child's singing from the
shower to the stage!**

Visit our **website** www.niypaa.com.au



[@niypaaofficial](https://www.facebook.com/niypaaofficial)



[australian_youth_choir](https://www.instagram.com/australian_youth_choir)

The Australian Youth Choir is a division of National Institute of Youth Performing Arts
Australian (NIYPAA) ABN 25 007 124 628

What's on Guide

TERM
1
2022

For Children, Teens & Families



DISCOVER, LEARN & CONNECT @ **SURREY HILLS NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE**



surrey hills
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

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157 Union Road,

Surrey Hills 3127

Ph: 9890 2467

enquiries@surreyhillsnc.org.au

www.surreyhillsnc.org.au

