



NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday, February 3, 2021

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, February 5
Monday, February 8
Wednesday, February 10
Friday, February 12
Monday, February 15
Friday, February 19
Monday, February 22
Friday, February 26

Monday, March 1
Wednesday, March 3
Thursday, March 4
Monday, March 8
Monday, March 29
Wednesday, March 31
Thursday, April 1
Monday, April 19

Prep Parent Morning Tea – 9:00am
Parent/Teacher Information Sharing 3:15pm – 6:30pm
Swimming Trials 7:30am Werribee Outdoor Swimming Pool
Classroom Helpers Training – 9:00am (session 1)
School Council Meeting 7:00pm
Classroom Helpers Training – 9:00am (session 2)
SSVWD Swimming Carnival
Classroom Helpers Training – 9:00am (session 3)
Year 6 Interschool Sport / Alternative Sport program – **summer season commences**
Preps commence full time (3:00 p.m. finish)
Years 3 - 6 Cross Country
Whole School Photos
Labour Day (Public Holiday)
Prep – Year 2 Cross Country
Year 4 and Year 6 **only** Athletics Day
Last day Term 1, 2:30pm finish
First day Term 2, 8:50 am start

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN PLACE

If you are unwell, please stay at home.

- Avoid gathering in a group inside or around the school
- Keep 1.5m between yourself and other adults
- Avoid handshakes and hugs
- Wash your hands regularly



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the 2021 School Year

Welcome back to all families and a very special welcome to our new students and their families – you are now part of our Red and Blue Family.

We are very proud of the independence all of our students have continued to display as they make their way into the school grounds. They are confident, calm and mature.

It is very important that we continue to celebrate and encourage this independence and allow our students to continue to grow. In line with the most recent directions from the Chief Health Officer, the current School Operations Guide states that **congestion within the school and at entry points should be avoided where feasible.** To ensure this happens we continue to ask families to encourage children to enter the school grounds independently.



Adults should only enter the school grounds if necessary and if they are well. Visitors will need to register their attendance via a QR code before entering the school buildings. We ask that they also wear a facemask and follow strict hygiene and social distancing practices.

Our priority continues to be the health & wellbeing of all of our students, staff and the wider school community ensuring that we maintain a safe environment for teaching & learning for everyone.

Pupil Free Day

Each Victorian government school is entitled to four pupil free days year. The first one for every school this year was Wednesday, January 27 and the other three are determined by the school. This year we will have the remaining pupil free days on **Friday, March 5, Thursday, June 24** and **Monday, November 1**.

Parent / Teacher Information Exchange

A reminder that our teaching staff will be available on **Monday, February 8 from 3:15 - 6:30pm** to meet with parents who would like to pass on information to their child's teacher that may help the teacher better understand and cater for their child(ren).

Bookings are now open on Compass. Please note when selecting the teacher there are two options for interviews, onsite or by phone.

If you would like to make an appointment with any one of our 'specialist' teachers who teach The Arts, Physical Education, Spanish, Science or Digital Technology, please contact the school on ☎9741 2803 so that an appointment time can be arranged.

In addition to the parent/teacher interviews offered twice per year, Iramoo parents also receive a *year level newsletter* for each child during the first full fortnight of each term. These newsletters contain specific information about the curriculum covered each term and any special events or activities applicable to each year level. Please look for these informative newsletters at the beginning of each term as they also contain information about how you can help and support your child's learning.

Extreme weather

Please note that *children are never sent home early from school* without parent permission or without being collected/signed out by an authorised adult.

When weather is extreme, we modify our activities at school but classes are not dismissed before 3:00pm. If the weather is very hot as it often is in February/March, some parents may wish to collect their child(ren) from school *early*. On the *very* hot days, 12:30pm is an ideal time to collect children so that they can be signed out from the office before they go out to play. Please note that all of our classrooms are air-conditioned.

Student Leadership

Our students are offered a number of opportunities each year to take up positions of leadership within the school, the most significant of these being School Captains. Congratulations to Udisha Goyal and Cooper Bishop-Worn on their appointments to School Captains and to Isobel Dodson and Andrew Htoo who will be our Vice Captains.

Congratulations also to the following students who have been appointed to our 2021 Junior School Council: Misha Maidu, Rahul Kumar – Year 3, Torah Johnston and Avaniish Kotian – Year 4, Ofa Finua and Chase Yeowell – Year 5.

We have also appointed our 2021 Year 5 Flag Monitors who will be trained in their role by our current monitors, during the next few weeks. Congratulations: Swati Veerappan, Charli Madden, Penelope Kumar, Mason Eichler, Nash Jolley (emergency).

In the coming weeks our Year 6 students and teachers will decide on our House, Arts and Digital Technologies Captains for 2021.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) is again available to families with a current health care/concession card and will provide \$125 per child per annum (\$225 for secondary students). The CSEF will automatically be directed to the school and can be used for student activities such as camps, sport, excursions and visitors to the school such as our annual Performing Arts production. Unlike its predecessor, the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), the CSEF cannot be used for uniforms, books, computers, school photos etc.

If you hold a current health care/concession card, you have access to the CSEF from the first day of this term. Please ensure that we have a copy of your card as soon as possible as applications will be processed from our office. Information from the Department of Education & Training regarding the CSEF is available at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Personal Goods Brought to School

All Principals are asked by the Department of Education & Training to annually remind parents, students and staff that private property brought to school is not insured and that DET accepts no responsibility for loss or damage. *Please note that students must not bring their own electronic games, 'gadgets', computers/tablets, cameras or mobile phones to school.*

* Attached is our Mobile Phone Policy outlining our procedures & requirements for children who bring their mobile phones to school.

Student Accident Insurance

Principals have also been asked to remind parents that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for their own children and this includes transport costs.

The Department is aware of a number of insurers including JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd, EBM Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd and JLT Pty Ltd who provide accident insurance policies for students. These policies provide cover for a reasonably low cost for students who are injured in accidents. Other insurers may also do so.

Annual Privacy Reminder

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website www.iramoops.vic.edu.au

For more information about privacy, refer to: **Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents.**

Kids and Fruit

Our Kids & Fruit program will resume for students in Years 1 to 6 on Monday, February 8. The cost will be an average of 40cents per day. Prep students will be included in this program from the beginning of Term 2. Further information will be posted on Compass.



Wellbeing Support

It is very important that we all continue to look after our own mental health and the mental health of our children. Included in this newsletter are a number of helpful resources that we highly recommend.

Most of the resources are from Emerging Minds: The National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health: <https://emergingminds.com.au>. We encourage you to have a look at the website, which has a wealth of information including some really interesting articles, factsheets and podcasts.

Remember if you need any additional support, please also consider contacting any of the following services:

- **BeyondBlue** 1300 22 4636 (24/7 Mental Health Support)
- **Lifeline** 13 11 14 (24/7 Crisis Support & Suicide Prevention Services)
- **Parentline** 13 22 89 (8:00am – 12 midnight 7 days per week, Parenting Advice & Support)
- Other resources attached.

If you are concerned about someone at risk of immediate harm, call 000 or go to your nearest hospital emergency department.

Safety Around Our School

It is very important that everyone follows traffic regulations around our school. We also need to ensure that we respect the homes and properties that surround our school.



CONGRATULATIONS – Baby News



- This month Mrs & Mr Cisternas welcomed a healthy son, Jovahni Denver-Ray into her family. Joey was born on Wednesday, January 20 and weighed 3.27kg.
- Mrs & Mr Anapliotis welcomed their second son Micah Lee into their family. Micah was born on Thursday, January 28 and weighed 4.3kg.

Raquel Tweedley

NEWSPAPERS

Our art rooms need newspapers. If you have any newspapers that you can donate to our art rooms, they would be much appreciated and well used. Thank you.

VISUAL ARTS TEACHERS



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 5152

Mobile Phone – Student Use Policy

Purpose

To explain to our school community the Department's and Iramoo Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other devices containing a sim card, i.e. smart watches and tablets during school hours.

This policy has been developed to ensure the safety and privacy of our students. This policy forms part of our school wide Child Safe Standards and e-Smart accreditation.

Scope

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Iramoo Primary School.
2. Students' personal mobile phones brought onto school premises during school hours.
3. Any personal mobile device containing a sim card e.g. mobile phone, smart watch or tablet.

Definitions

A *mobile phone* is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches or tablets.

Policy

Iramoo Primary School discourages students from bringing mobile phones and other devices containing a sim card to school. Our school understands that there may be exceptions to this and that some students may be required to bring a device to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Iramoo Primary School:

- Students who bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off as soon as they enter the school grounds and securely stored during school hours in the school administration office.
- Parents or carers who need to make contact with their child in an emergency situation during the school day, can contact our school office.

Personal mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used at our school during school hours, including at recess and lunchtime.

Secure storage

Mobile phones and other devices containing a sim card owned by students at our school are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) own risk. Please note that Iramoo Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft and as such, parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items.

Where students bring a mobile phone or mobile device containing a sim card to our school, Iramoo Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Iramoo Primary School students are required to hand their mobile phones and other devices containing a sim card into the school administration office to be placed in a lockable cupboard.

Enforcement

In some circumstances, Iramoo Primary School recognises that a student may need to bring his/her mobile phone or other personal device such as a smart watch or tablet to school. In these cases, parent/guardians need to speak with their child's class teacher or with the Wellbeing Coordinator to discuss the reasons for this.

If a child needs to bring his/her mobile or personal device to school, he/she is expected to follow the Iramoo Primary School rules regarding devices as outlined in this policy. Our rules and the expectations around mobile phones have been clearly communicated to parent/guardians and discussed with our students.

- Mobile phones and other personal devices containing a sim card are **not to be used for any purpose** while they are on our school grounds.
- Students must switch their phone or device containing a sim card off as soon as they enter our school grounds.
- Students must hand their mobile phone or device containing a sim card into our administration office as soon as they arrive at school.
- Students must collect their phone or device containing a sim card from our administration office after the bell rings at 3pm.
- Students are **not permitted to switch on or use their mobile phone or device containing a sim card for any purpose** until they are off the school grounds after 3.00pm.
- Under no conditions are students to keep mobile phones or devices containing a sim card in their school bags or in any other location other than the administration office.

Students who do not comply with this policy will be directed and required to give their device to a teacher. Parents/Guardians will be contacted to discuss the breach and will be asked to come to the school with their child for a discussion and to collect their mobile device.

Students in breach of this policy may be issued with consequences consistent with our student discipline and other relevant policies as outlined below.

Camps and excursions

Students are not permitted to bring mobile phones and any other personal devices containing a sim card to camps or excursions. The teacher in charge of the camp or excursion and other teachers in attendance, will have access to mobile phones for use in an emergency situation.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- DET [mobile phones policy](#)
- DET [personal goods policy](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Child Safe policy](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Privacy policy](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Discipline policy](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Bullying Prevention policy](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School e-SMART Cybersafety](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Digital Technologies Agreement](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Camps and Excursions policy](#)
- [Iramoo Primary School Portable Digital Devices policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was developed in November 2019 and is scheduled for review in November 2022.

Ratified by Iramoo Primary School Council: November, 2019
Review Date: November, 2022

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PLAYING NETBALL?

The season has just begun and Wyndham Victory Netball Club is looking for new players in all age groups. Netball is a great game to promote teamwork, problem-solving, and physical and mental fitness. Come down and give it a try and make some new friends. Training is on every Wednesday afternoon at Eagle Stadium from 5pm. Please contact Louise on 0408 651 211 or Phil on 0437 078 739 for more information.

Additionally, Wyndham Netball Association is looking for women to join our social competition on Monday and Thursday mornings. Games are between 9.30 am and 11 am and are played at Eagle Stadium. Please contact Wyndham Netball Association <http://www.wyndhamnetball.com.au/> for more information. Hope to see you there!



'we make kids smile'

Iramoo BEFORE School Care / AFTER School Care Program

Hours are 7 - 8.45 a.m. and 3 - 6 p.m.

For more information contact Fran on ☎ 9731 0554, 0434 610 133 or ☎ 1300 105 343 or www.campaustralia.com.au

Smash your savings goals and we'll match it up to \$500



Saver Plus will match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

To join Saver Plus you must be 18 years plus, have regular income from work (you or your partner)*, have a child at school / starting next year or be studying yourself, and have a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card and an eligible Centrelink payment*.

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact us for more information

-  laptops & tablets
-  camps & excursions
-  uniforms & shoes
-  lessons & activities
-  sports fees & gear
-  books & supplies



Contact
Tina McElligott
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator

Phone
0439 585 702

Email
WerribeeSP@thesmithfamily.com.au

Online
saverplus.org.au
Facebook @SaverPlusAU



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, Berry Street and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.bsl.gov.au for more information.



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