

## Aiming For Excellence In Education

School Values:

RESPECT, ATTITUDE,  
CO-OPERATION, ENVIRONMENT

### Mission Statement:

Airly Primary School commits to a respectful, co-operative, safe and inclusive learning environment.



NEWSLETTER NO. 24  
August 5th, 2020

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## SCHOOL EVENTS: TERM 3 - Dates to remember

### August

Monday 10th - School Council – virtual meeting (Mrs Talbot to send out invitation)

### Remote Learning

Today sees the start of remote learning for the next six weeks (till September 13 at least). Families are able to borrow school computers for use at home if required.

### Postponed events:

School Photos – now probably in mid-October  
Grade 6 Transition day to Maffra Secondary College – now term 4

### Face masks to be worn at school

From last Monday, August 3, it is mandated that all Victorians wear a face covering when outside their own homes. Parents and adult visitors to our school are required to wear a face mask within our school grounds. Visitors to the school must have a valid reason for doing so. Students do not need to wear a mask at school unless they wish to do so.

### Homework Policy

Attached to this newsletter is a DRAFT Homework Policy. Please read it and provide any suggestions to our teaching staff.

### Reading

We seem to have a few families with pre-school children at home. It would be terrific practice for our school-aged children to read aloud each night to their younger brothers and sisters. This would have the added benefit of building the Literacy skills of the youngsters as they listen to the stories / rhymes from their siblings. Parents, please promote this reading behaviour in your homes.

### Thank You

\*To Rod L for welding the old metal play equipment last weekend.

### Behaviour reminder

As our school follows the *School Wide Positive Behaviour Support* framework (SWPBS), we regularly collect data about our students' behaviour. When 'Rethink' forms are sent home for parents to discuss with their children, we need these signed forms sent back to school. During School reviews these forms are checked by the Reviewer to ensure parents are part of the process of our Behaviour framework.

### Professional Development

With the COVID-19 restrictions postponing or cancelling many events this year, staff continue to extend their skills with online webinars and meetings. Over the next few weeks our teaching staff are participating in a series of webinars with Steve Munby, UK expert on leadership and education reform. This has been organised by Country Education Partnership (CEP), who work closely with our Sale Rural Cluster. Last night all teachers participated in a learning sessions about Assessment tools (PAT-Maths / PAT-Reading tests).

### Cat food

Families are asked to please donate some cat food (dry pellets or tins) for 'Georgie'. She is regularly used to calm our students who may be feeling angry or anxious.

### World Scout Day



Jacob and Seth demonstrated how to fold the scarf ready to wear on World Scout Scarf Day.

## Tuesday Cooking with Mrs Pearce

Starting next Tuesday 11th August, Mrs Pearce will be running virtual cooking classes for all students. There will be a different recipe for each week of remote learning and they will be included in the Newsletter. Parents will have plenty of time to purchase ingredients for the following week's cooking lesson. Vegetarian Shepherds Pie (see below) is on the menu for next Tuesday, 11th August at 2pm.

### Week 1

#### Vegetarian Shepherd's Pie



#### Ingredients

- 1 head cauliflower
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1 red onion, diced
- 2 carrots, grated
- 1 1/2 cups frozen green peas
- 2 tbs Moroccan spice blend
- 2 cups lentils, cooked
- 1 cup vegetable stock
- 1/2 cup currants
- 1/2 cup Parmesan, grated
- salt and pepper, to taste

#### Method

1. **Preheat** oven to 180°C. Chop cauliflower into rough florets and boil until soft. Mash with melted butter and season to taste. Set aside.

2. **Fry** onion and grated carrot in olive oil until soft, then add the Moroccan spices and cook until fragrant.

3. Add lentils, stock and currants, then cook until mixture thickens. Stir in frozen peas.

4. Transfer to greased ovenproof dishes and top with mashed cauliflower and parmesan. Bake for 15-20 minutes until lightly golden. Serve with fresh leafy greens.

## Newsletters

From today we will no longer be sending hard copy newsletters home. They will go out electronically via School Stream, email and on the school website. If you need to be added to the email distribution list, please let school know. If you do not have the School Stream App and would like to download it, please see details below. We are taking this action as a sustainable school.

**Download our school app for free!**

Why download the app?

- Receive instant notifications for important news.
- Easily register absentees and excursions.
- Keep up to date with events and set reminders.

Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.
2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.
3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.

schoolstream

## Schools Tree Day

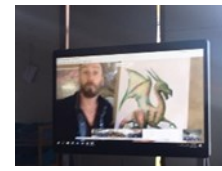
In glorious weather last Friday students planted tree seedlings along the rear of the oval. Grasses and smaller bushes were planted in the *Meeting Place* and outside the classrooms.

Thank you to Wellington Shire for the donation of the plants.



## Illustrator visit

Students were enthralled by the online presentation of illustrator Marc McBride last week. He demonstrated how he spray paints his dragon pictures and guided students to draw their own dragon. His key message was for everyone to use their imagination! These dragons belong to Dom, Jackson, Piper, Kenny, Seth, Willow and Zeph.



## Victorian Education Excellence Awards

Our Sale Rural Cluster was encouraged by *Country Education Partnership* (CEP) to enter the 2020 Awards. Unfortunately we were not selected as finalists. As Bill Jeffs, CEP said, "the Cluster doesn't need others to recognize the work you do - you know the power of your collaboration and the way you support each other and develop learning opportunities for all your students in all your schools. You have also been outstanding leaders in your communities as you adapted to the demands of the many stressful demands of Covid-19.

You also need to be reminded that the Department had asked us (CEP) to select a small number of successful Clusters to use as case studies in the further development of clustering across the state and that consequently you were selected as one of these few. The excellent work you do is recognized much more widely than may be apparent and we sing your praises loudly."

Regards - Brenda, Sarah, Mitch, Jody, Emma, Kerrie, Alison, Emily and Jacinta



# Homework

2020 POLICY



## **Purpose**

To outline to our school community the Department's and Airly Primary School's policy requirements relating to homework.

## **Scope**

This policy applies to students in all year levels and staff responsible for setting and monitoring homework at Airly Primary School.

## **Rationale**

Airly Primary School has developed this Homework Policy in consultation with the School Council to support student learning and wellbeing by:

- providing opportunities for students to review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills
- providing opportunities for students to apply new knowledge
- providing opportunities for students to prepare for future lessons
- encouraging students to enrich or extend knowledge individually, collectively and imaginatively
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- supporting learning partnerships with parents/carers.

## **Definitions**

**Homework** is tasks assigned to students by teachers that are meant to be carried out during non-school hours.

## **Policy**

At Airly Primary School all homework set by teachers will be:

- purposeful
- curriculum-aligned
- appropriate to students' skill level and age
- designed to help students develop as independent learners
- monitored by the teacher
- where appropriate, provide opportunities for parents/carers to partner in their child's learning.

**Airly PS requires that all students read each night at home.** Parents assist by listening to their child/read and signing a Reading Log to record reading practice. The parent signature is to ensure accountability for home reading. Airly PS rewards home reading for each 50 nights of reading completed.

## **Shared expectations and responsibilities**

Homework is a shared responsibility between the school, teachers, students and their parents/carers. In order to get the most out of homework tasks, it is important that everyone understands their obligations and responsibilities.

Responsibilities and expectations for **teachers** at Airly Primary School are to:

- set homework that is curriculum-aligned and appropriate to the student's skill level and age

- ensure homework tasks are purposeful – this means they are deliberately designed and planned to support student learning
- assess homework and provide timely and practical feedback
- ensure the amount of homework set supports a student to engage with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities outside of school hours
- offer opportunities for families to engage in their children’s learning.

Responsibilities and expectations for **students** are:

- being aware of the school’s homework policy
- discussing homework expectations with their parents/carers
- accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames
- following up on comments made by teachers
- seeking assistance when difficulties arise
- organising their time to manage home obligations, participation in physical activity and sports, recreational and cultural activities.

Responsibilities and expectations for **parents/carers** are:

- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational, family and cultural activities
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home,
- in dialogue, linking homework to:
  - ◊ previous experiences the child and/or parent/carer may have had
  - ◊ family culture(s), history(ies) and language(s)
  - ◊ relevant services, clubs, associations and community.
- ensuring there is a quiet study area for their child to complete homework.

### **Support for students and parents/carers**

Airly Primary School understands that students have different learning strengths, preferences and interests and may approach learning activities and homework differently. If parents/carers are concerned their child may not understand the homework tasks that have been set or is spending a long period of time completing their homework, we encourage parents/carers to speak to their child’s teacher.

### **Related policies and resources**

[Homework – Department Policy](#)

**Evaluation** This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year review cycle.

<p><b>This policy was ratified at Airly Primary School Council’s meeting held on:</b></p>
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