



Aim High:
aspire, learn, achieve



MOWBRAY HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Issue No. 2 14th February 2018

This Coming Week:

Thurs 15th Feb
Early Childhood
Assembly 2.10 pm

Mon 19th Feb
Swimming and Water
Safety Program
continues at
Launceston Aquatic
Centre
PIPS Testing begins

Key Dates for 2018

Term 1
Wednesday 7th Feb -
Thursday 12th April

Term 2
Monday 30th April -
Friday 6th July

Term 3
Tuesday 24th July -
Friday 28th Sept

Term 4
Monday 15th Oct -
Friday 20th Dec

Easter
Friday 30th March -
Tuesday 3rd April

Professional Learning Days
Friday 13th April
Monday 23rd July
Friday 2nd November

As part of our commitment to informing families about all aspects of school life and welcoming family engagement in their children’s education, we hold Class Meetings at the beginning of each school year. We provide a range of options aimed to meet the needs of our families, with some meeting times held during school hours and some held after school. During the meeting you will hear information about school expectations for learning and behaviour, the curriculum and other details appropriate to the class. Below is the timetable for our Prep to 5/6 classes. Kindergarten Class Meetings will take place in Week 4 once the children are settled, with further details available next week.

Monday 19 th February	1/2 Ayers	1.55 pm - 2.25 pm
Monday 19 th February	1/2 Wood	2.25 pm - 2.55 pm
Monday 19 th February	5/6 Glachan	3.00 pm - 3.30 pm
Monday 19 th February	3/4 Rafferty	3.35 pm - 4.05 pm
Tuesday 20 th February	1/2 Mahar	2.25 pm - 2.55 pm
Tuesday 20 th February	3/4 Leader	3.00 pm - 3.30 pm
Tuesday 20 th February	3/4 Boon-Smith	3.35 pm - 4.05 pm
Wednesday 21 st February	Prep/1 Adams	1.55 pm - 2.25 pm
Wednesday 21 st February	Prep Wyley	2.25 pm - 2.55 pm
Wednesday 21 st February	Prep Fletcher Baker	2.25 pm - 2.55 pm
Wednesday 21 st February	3/4 Ashman	3.00 pm - 3.30 pm
Wednesday 21 st February	5/6 McKenzie Atkins	3.35 pm - 4.05 pm
Thursday 22 nd February	5/6 Sheedy	3.00 pm - 3.30 pm
Thursday 22 nd February	5/6 Geale	3.35 pm - 4.05 pm
Monday 26 th February	4/5 Airey	3.00 pm - 3.30 pm
Monday 26 th February	3/4 Dalton	3.35 pm - 4.05 pm
Tuesday 27 th February	1/2 Kerrison Pridmore	2.25 pm - 2.55 pm
Thursday 1 st March	1/2 Holmes	9.00 am - 9.30 am

We are able to offer childcare in the Library for the after school sessions. I warmly invite you to come along, meet the teachers involved in your child’s education and hear about how our wonderful school operates. *Sharon*

Diary

Thurs 15th Feb	Early Childhood Assembly 2.10 pm
Mon 19th Feb	Swimming and Water Safety Program continues @ Launceston Aquatic Centre
Mon 19th Feb	PIPS Testing begins for Prep students
Mon 19th Feb	Class Meetings begin
Thurs 22nd Feb	Primary Assembly 2.00 pm
Fri 23rd Feb	Swimming and Water Safety Program concludes
Wed 28th Feb	Launceston Cup - Public Holiday
Fri 2nd March	Year 5 and 6 Excursion
Mon 12th Mar	Eight Hour Day - Public Holiday
Wed 14th Mar	Years 3 - 6 Athletic Carnival
Mon 19th Mar	Parent Teacher Interviews begin
Wed 22nd Mar	School Photo Day

Student Validation Forms

It is imperative that the school maintains accurate and up to date information on each student. At the beginning of each year we ask parents and carers to look at information from our files and amend/update any details. **Student Validation** forms are coming home today with the Newsletter. Please make sure that the Permissions Section (on the last page) is completed. Completing this section is particularly important as it gives the necessary parental approval for students to be able to participate in minor excursions.

Also coming home is the **ICT Acceptable Use Agreement**. We require you to read the information, discuss it with your child and commit to the agreement.

Permission to complete the **Resilient Youth Australia Survey** for Years 3 to 6 is also requested.

We ask that all forms be returned to school as soon as possible.



Scooters and Bikes

We encourage students to take up the healthy practice of riding scooters or bikes to school if parents consider it a safe option. The law requires helmets to be worn when riding. When students enter school grounds, bikes and scooters cannot be ridden and need to be pushed, thus ensuring all people in our school yard are safe.

To ensure the safety of bikes a bike lock is essential. Bikes are stored in the bike shed located beside the primary toilets. Scooters are stored in the quadrangle.



School Office Hours and Uniform Sales

Our Office is open from 8.00 am - 4.00 pm. **The Uniform Cupboard** is open on Tuesdays from 8.45 am - 9.30 am.

School Banking Program



We are pleased to offer the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program to all students. The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to deposit money into their Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. Our banking day is Thursday. School Banking will begin on Thursday 15th February.

Launceston Cup - Wed 28th February

Launceston Cup Day is a gazetted Public Holiday. **Students do not attend school on this day.** Staff will be attending from 9.00 am - 11.00 am to undertake professional learning.



PIPS Testing for Prep Students

All of our Prep students will be assessed using PIPS (Performance Indicators in Primary Schools) from 19th February - 9th March. The PIPS program assesses the early literacy and numeracy skills of all Prep students. It is conducted by the Prep Teachers on a one-to-one basis using a computer software package. PIPS assists teachers to:

- Assess each student's literacy and numeracy skills and monitor ongoing progress
- Identify students who will benefit from intervention or enrichment programs
- Provide information to support the provision of appropriate curriculum planning.

A follow-up assessment will take place early in Term 4. Results from both assessments are shared with parents. If you have any questions about PIPS, please feel free to talk to your child's teacher.

Launching into Learning

Our Launching into Learning Programs commence on Monday 19th February. Lara Boyden and Amy Baker are leading our programs, supported by Sharon Booth, Teacher Assistant. Please see the insert in this Newsletter for details about what we are able to offer our young children and their families.



Student Medication

If children require any medication whilst at school, we require a signed form from a doctor stating dose and time of medication, plus a signed form from the parent authorising the medicine or tablets. These forms can be obtained from the school office.



2018 Swimming & Water Safety

Program

Our Swimming and Water Safety Program for all Year 3, 4 and 5 students, and identified Year 6 students began on Monday and concludes on **Friday 23 February**. This program is an integral part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum requiring compulsory attendance.

This week the program is held at Glen Dhu Pool, the second week is at the Launceston Aquatic Centre. Every child is required to bring their bathers, (board shorts are discouraged), a rashie and a towel in a separate swimming bag each day. On a specific day (to be notified) your child will also be required to bring extra clothes to be worn over their bathers to practice survival swimming. **Every child is provided with a swimming cap free of charge.** If caps are lost there will be a \$2.00 replacement cost.

You are invited to take the opportunity to observe your child's swimming progress at any time during the program, but need you to be aware that your presence is not required in the change rooms.

Students will be in the water from the following times:

3/4 Ashman and 3/4 Dalton	9.20 am
3/4 Leader and 3/4 Boon-Smith	10.20 am
3/4 Rafferty and 4/5 Airey	11.20 am
5/6 Geale and 5/6 Sheedy	12.20 pm
5/6 Glachan and 5/6 McKenzie Atkins	1.30 pm



Walking to School



Please make sure you remind your children about being safe on the way to and from school. Please encourage them to use the lights and road crossings safely.

It is very important that students **do not enter or leave** school through the staff carpark as this is a very busy time from 8.30 am - 9.00 am and from 3.00 pm.

Visitors

It is a policy in all schools that all visitors sign in at the school office. If parents arrive at school any earlier than 2.45 pm to collect their children at the end of the day, we ask that they also sign in. This policy is in place to ensure everyone's health and safety. Should an emergency occur we must have an accurate record of who is on our school grounds and who we need to account for.

Drinks at School

Fizzy drinks, cordial and sports drinks are not appropriate at school. Water is the much preferred option for hydrating for learning and play. Please no glass drink bottles.



Thank you for supporting your children's health and learning.

School Gates

We would like all members of our school community to be aware that there are children in Early Childhood whose safety requires careful consideration. It cannot be stressed enough how important it is for our school gates to be kept closed between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm. If you see a gate open during school hours please shut it straight away. Sometimes you think the gate may be shut but it hasn't actually engaged the lock, so please check when you are closing them.

Thank you very much for your assistance with this.

Medical Action Plan

If your child has a medical condition which may require special treatment (for example asthma, allergies) your child will need a Medical Action Plan.

A plan from the Doctor and information from you is required so that we can ensure we have current and correct information. Please make sure your child's class teacher is aware of your child's condition as a priority.

Please contact Steve Smyth (Assistant Principal) on 6326 1892 to formalise the plan.



Staff Carpark



The carpark off Cadorna Street is designated for Staff. Families are most welcome to drop students off in the turning circle. Students can then safely walk along the Cadorna Street footpath to the school gate. Students are not to walk up the driveway as this is a very dangerous place for children before and after school due to lots of traffic.

Coles Sports for Schools 2018



We are collecting sports for schools vouchers. For every \$10 spent at Coles you will receive one voucher. Vouchers can be dropped off at the school office.

School Times

School is open and supervision is provided from 8.30 am

Learning starts at 8.55 am

Recess is from 11.00 am to 11.25 am

Lunch is from 12.55 pm to 1.55 pm (This includes eating time)

School finishes at 3.00 pm

Supervision concludes at 3.15 pm



Support Services Team @ Mowbray Heights Primary School

Our school community is so fortunate to have the knowledge and skills of some very professional and caring people, who do their utmost to support the needs of students, families and staff. They are known as our Support Services Team. At Mowbray Heights we have a School Psychologist, Speech and Language Pathologists, a Social Worker and a School Nurse. They all work at our school part-time. This week we introduce:

- our School Psychologist is Megan Thow. Her main role in our school is to undertake educational assessments, diagnose learning disabilities, offer information about interventions and programs, and provide counselling for individuals and families on a range of mental health, emotional and family issues. Megan is in our school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

- our Speech and Language Pathologists are Kylie McKenna (Tuesday), Maddie Burke (Monday, Wednesday) and Kristina Tachtsis (Friday). Their main role is to diagnose and report on communication and language disorders, organise and implement treatment for students, and work with families and staff on intervention strategies.

- our Social Worker is Mel Petterwood. Mel's primary aim is to increase the capacity of school communities in supporting students for whom access, participation and achievement may be adversely affected by a range of social issues. Mel is in our school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Referrals to these services can be made directly, through your child's teacher or through the Principal.

Next week we will introduce you to Jenna our School Nurse. Our Chaplain position is vacant at the moment.

School Levies 2018

Kindergarten	\$160	Prep	\$185
Grade 1	\$185	Grade 2	\$185
Grade 3	\$225	Grade 4	\$225
Grade 5	\$230	Grade 6	\$230

This composite levy does not cover the following - specialised activities such as the, Leavers' activities, cost of school photo (optional) or any other optional activity.

School Levies are due by Friday 2nd March.

Student Assistance Scheme 2018

The Student Assistance Scheme (STAS) provides assistance for low income families towards the cost of levies.

Parents and guardians of students K – 10 attending a Tasmanian State School are eligible to apply for Student Assistance (STAS). To be eligible, you and your partner's gross taxable income must be no more than the figures shown below. You must have a minimum 50% care of a child for them to be considered your dependent. Grandparents raising children are also eligible to apply for and receive STAS.

Income Table for 2016 - 2017 Taxable year

No of children	Income p/week	Annual Parental Income
1	\$679	\$35,308
2	\$781	\$40,612
3	\$890	\$46,280
4	\$1006	\$52,312
5	\$1,129	\$58,708

2018 application forms are available from the school office. Completed application forms can be returned to the school office, or emailed directly to the Department of Education stas@education.tas.gov.au or fax 61730315.

If you have any queries regarding STAS applications, please contact Maree Phillips (School Business Manager) in person or on 63261892.

Student Mobile Phones

Students are reminded that if they bring a mobile phone to school, it must be handed in to the Office Staff each morning. Phones will be returned to students at the end of the school day. The same applies to ipods.



CONTACT DETAILS

Postal Address: PO Box 131, Mowbray Heights 7248

Street Address: 20-30 Cadorna Street, Mowbray Heights

Phone: 6326 1892 **Fax:** 6326 6119

Email: mowbray.heights.primary@education.tas.gov.au