



NEWS FROM ANDREW

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our returning and new families at Maribyrnong. It has been wonderful to see our students return so full of enthusiasm and anticipation for a new year of learning!

We are excited about continuing to improve student learning outcomes while providing a differentiated approach for all children this year. I'll talk in more detail about the work staff have been undertaking as part of our School Improvement Plan in recent months in our next Possum Press.

It has been a welcome change from last year to have parents and carers on school grounds each morning this week and part of our morning assemblies. We are continuing to use these gatherings as a way to give students key messages about what's coming up for that day, celebrate individual success and communicate whole school goals.

At the beginning of each school year there are always changes in staffing and families often ask questions about how they can make contact with particular members of staff. For your reference, a full staff list with email contact details can be found here:

http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/principals_message/Staff_contact_list

Current COVID Restrictions

To start 2021, our daily school operations will continue in a similar way to term 4, 2020. We invite parents and carers onto the school grounds for morning and afternoon pickup, however we ask adults who are not members of staff to stay outside of school buildings unless they have a prior arranged appointment. Everyone on school grounds is encouraged to exercise appropriate social distancing with others who do not belong to the same family. We will continue to operate our car line for student collection in the afternoons.

All visitors are encouraged to use the CBR Check In App if they intend on staying on school grounds for more than 15 minutes. QR codes and signage to 'check in' can be found at various points inside and outside school buildings.

For further information visit: www.covid19.act.gov.au/check-in-cbr

Term Overviews

The link below takes you to our term one overviews for specific year groups and specialist programs. Please use this information as a guide for the learning your child will be involved in throughout the term. Another important aspect of these overviews is the 'how you can support your child's learning at home'. Through recent surveys and data gathering, you have told us that this information is crucial as you support your child and the school. If you have any questions about the information within the term overview, please make contact with your child's teacher.

http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our_curriculum/term_1_overviews_2021



FRIDAY 5 FEBRUARY: T1 W1



ACT
Government
Education

CONTACTS

Maribyrnong School Ph: 6142 0570
www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au

FACEBOOK: Maribyrnong
Primary School-Kaleen



Board Chair Tim Bavinton
timbavinton@gmail.com

P&C President Christopher Watkins
maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Possum Pantry Canteen
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
<http://www.flexischools.com.au>

Communities@Work
ph: 0405 124 312
Before and After School Care

Westpac School Bank Account
BSB 032 777 Account 001615

DATES

February

8-12 Get to know you interview
15-17 Yr 5 Cooba Camp
19 Wear your colour day

March

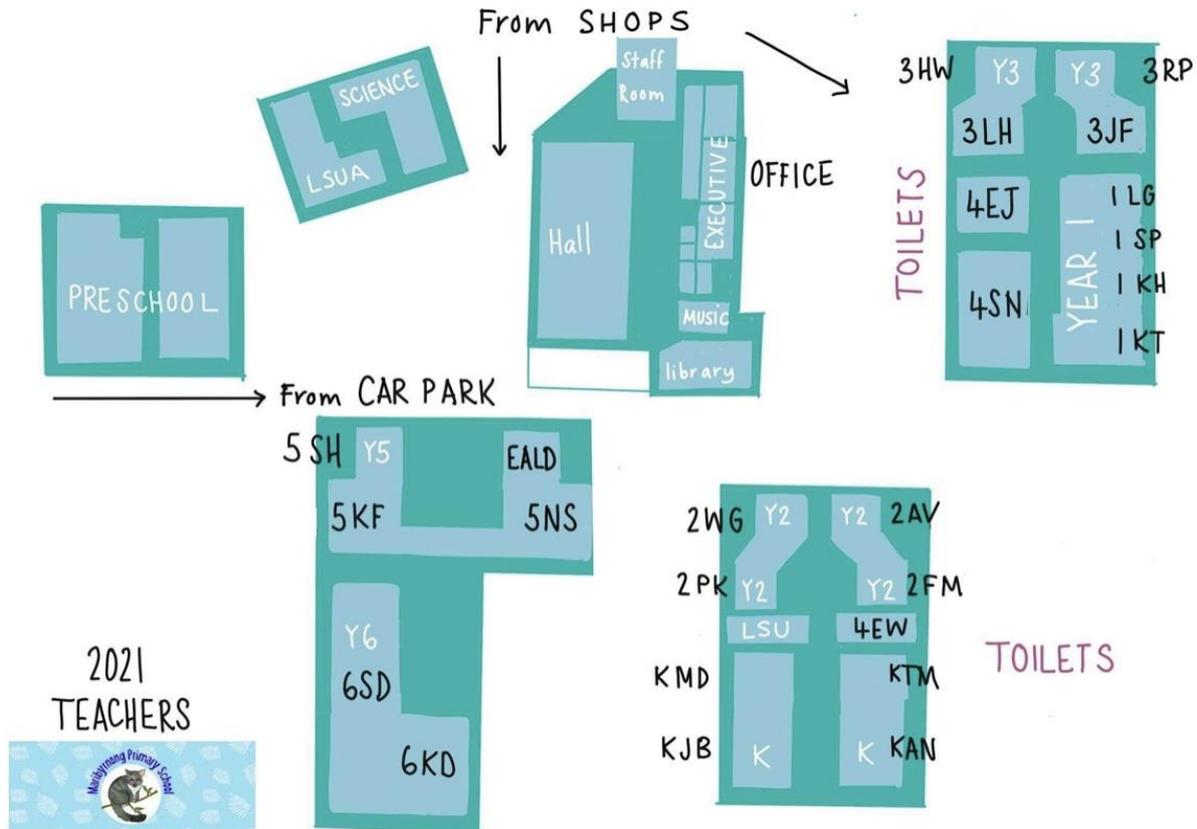
2 Yr 2-6 Swimming Carnival
24-26 Yr 6 Camp

Get To Know You Interviews

Last week, staff spent time in handover meetings, sharing key information on students gained in 2020 for 2021 educators. As the parent or carer of your child, you know their needs best. To complement information shared in these handover meetings, we feel it important for staff to spend time with parents and carers to gain a better understanding of your child and how they learn. These interviews will occur throughout next week (week 2) and bookings can be made with your child's 2021 teacher online. The details for how you can make a booking with your child's teacher have been emailed to you- please make contact with the school if you have not received this email. These interviews are supported by some documentation that you would have received as well. If you are unable to attend get to know you interviews next week, please fill out the and send it in to your child's teacher.

2021 Classroom Locations

As many families will be visiting the school for Get To Know You Interviews next week, it will be helpful for you to know where specific classes are situated. Please see the map below:



Growth comes from learning to tolerate moderate discomfort.

Now that the year is back into the swing of things, you may be experiencing a child who is reluctant to persist with something hard (like leaving your arms at daycare, going to school, going to swimming, making friends, doing assessments). This is inconvenient, emotionally challenging, and as parents we want to understand why so that we can 'fix' the problem.

But... and it's a big but; maybe there isn't a problem. Maybe it's just that some adjustment is needed and that takes time.

Let's say you start at the gym as a New Year's goal. You work out Monday morning. Tuesday you can barely move. It hurts! Do we drop out, stop going? Do we take some tablets to get through the pain?

No! We give it a day to recover and then we go back and try again. We adjust. We adapt. We GROW!

If things are a little tough, teach your children with empathy. Let them know "I can see it's really hard. I wish it were easier for you. But doing hard things helps us be better and stronger. It's how we grow."

As they learn to tolerate, not avoid, moderate discomfort, they'll become strong and resilient. (And so will you.)

Regards
Andrew

Defence School Mentor News



Hello Everyone!

My name is Jackie Sampson and I am the Defence School Mentor (DSM) for Maribyrnong Primary School. I provide support to the defence families who are a part of our school community. Maribyrnong recognises that many defence families benefit from additional support due to service postings or a family member being deployed.

What can a DSTA do?

- Welcoming new families and students to our school
- Support defence students to create friendships
- Support defence students in class
- Create links to Defence Community Organisation (DCO) for additional support
- Provide information to defence families through newsletters and direct contact
- Support defence students at times of deployment / postings
- Farewell defence families when they leave our school and support them in their transition to a new school

I can be contacted via email or through the front office here at school. I will be available at school on Tuesdays from 9am – 3pm and Fridays from 9am – 12pm.

Friday Coffee Club & Possum Partners

Come along and join us each Friday (excluding public and school holidays) for a cuppa and a chat starting at 9.15am. You can meet us at the front office, the library or my office located in the main hallway of the administration block at school. After visiting U & Co Café at Gwydir Square Kaleen (The shops near the school's front gates) to purchase our preferred morning beverage we then meet in the library for Possum Partners where we catch up and assist the school with all sorts of small jobs like making display items for class rooms, covering books, laminating and making class sets of resources. Everyone is welcome to join us!



Jackie Sampson - DSM

P&C Messages

The first P&C meeting and Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the school year will be held on **Thursday 18 February 2020** at 7pm in the school staffroom. This meeting is the first opportunity for members of the P&C to get together and elect members to take on certain roles within the committee. The great news is that as parents and carers, we are all members of the P&C. We are very fortunate to have great support from parents and citizens within the school community and rely on this support to be able to run the various events over the year. These events not only benefit the school by raising money to go towards much needed resources but also provide an opportunity for our school community to come together and create a sense of belonging. In saying this, unfortunately our P&C members also move on as their kids grow up and go to high school. In order to maintain such a well-functioning P&C, we rely on members to get involved in the P&C. We would like to encourage you to come along to our first meeting to get a better understanding of the P&C and find out how you can get involved.

Although all 2020 roles automatically become vacant, the P&C is specifically looking for members to take on the following roles:

- Assistant Treasurer
- Public Officer
- Canteen Coordinator
- Book Club Coordinator

We understand that not everyone can come to meetings nor take on P&C roles, however we appreciate any contribution our members of the P&C can provide. If you would like find out more about the P&C or join the P&C email distribution list, please email maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com



Have you got experience in finances or accounting? The P&C is looking for a willing person to take on the **Assistant Treasurer** role to support our P&C Treasurer. If you feel you can help, we would love you to email us at maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com to discuss further.



Girl Guides – a great place to do fun things and make new friends!

Girl Guides in the ACT are part of an international organisation offering a weekly program of fun and personal development during school terms for girls aged 5 to 18 years. We provide girls with a supportive and safe environment to explore opportunities including: developing life skills, self esteem and confidence, the ability to think and act for themselves, make lifelong friends, discovering the world they live in and participating in the local community. We also go on hikes and camps; participate in community service activities; and enjoy weekend and holiday adventure days.

The Kaleen-Giralang-Lawson area has three units meeting in Kaleen on Wednesdays: 6:00 – 7.30 pm for girls 5-10 years; and 6.00 – 8.00 pm for girls aged 10+ years. Other units meeting nearby also offer alternative nights to accommodate girls who can not attend on Wednesday nights. All girls are very welcome. Inquiries to: Bev on 0417 485737.

SCHOOL BOARD

Our School Board plays an important role in the school as it is the policy making body of the school. The roles of a School Board include maintaining the school strategic plan, monitoring and reviewing the performance of the school, and approving the school's budget.

What can you do?

It is the relationships with the parents and community that help build our strong sense of community at Maribyrnong. Some ways that you can participate are:

- attending P&C meetings, even becoming one of the executive P&C members
- volunteer with P&C run events
- assisting in the canteen or library
- reading in your child's class, or going on excursions with the class
- asking your child's teacher how you can help!
- one hour of power (give one hour across the year – imagine what we could all achieve together!)

On behalf of the school community we extend a warm welcome to you and look forward to connecting with you in our school.

2021 BOARD NOMINATIONS

If you're keen to contribute to the governance of Maribyrnong Primary School, you should consider nominating for a position on the school board in 2020. No prior experience is necessary.

The following positions will be vacant from Wednesday 1 April 2021.

- 1 staff member position
- 1 parent and citizen member positions

Nominations will open at 11:00 am on Monday 8 February 2021.

Nomination forms will be available from that date at the front office (9.00 am to 3.00 pm, Monday to Friday), or you can request one be emailed to you. Nominations must be submitted to the front office between **11.00 am, Monday 8 February 2021** and **11.00 am, Monday 22 February 2021**.

You can submit your nomination by:

- hand delivery to the front office
- email leanne.rankine@ed.act.edu.au
- mail to ARO, c/- Maribyrnong Primary School

For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Leanne Rankine on 6142 0570 or via email address above.

**NOMINATE
NOW**



MARIBYRNONG INCLUSIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS
INVITE ALL PARENTS TO TO JOIN US IN AN

ODD WEEK COFFEE CLUB

A Community Coffee Club

Come and share a drink and an opportunity to connect with other parents of students with learning needs

**TUESDAYS, ODD WEEKS
TERM TIME FROM WEEK 3 TERM 1**

9.15am
at U&Co Cafe, Gwydir Square
Kaleen



Happy Families Partnership



EVERY FAMILY at Maribyrnong Primary School now has access to their own Happy Families Premium Membership. These memberships contain a library of parenting resources from Dr Justin Coulson to offer calm assurance, vision, direction and solutions you can trust. Memberships are **usually** \$170 per family per year, but each family has full access to the membership for the next 12 months for **FREE**.

Some of the included features are

- Live monthly webinars with Dr Justin Coulson
- Access to Dr Justin Coulson's entire webinar library + a new one every month
- Weekly "Lighten the Load" tips
- Book Club with Mrs Happy Families - Kylie Coulson and much more!

Start accessing the Happy Families library and resources right away!

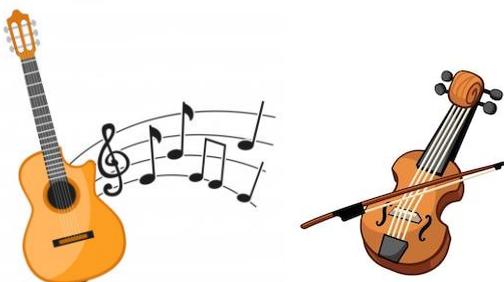
<https://members.happyfamilies.com.au/maribyrnong>

Maribyrnong's After School Guitar & Violin Lessons are Enrolling for 2021

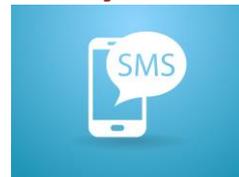
If your child is interested in learning the Guitar or Violin at Maribyrnong Primary after-school in 2021, please collect an EOI form at the front office.

Alternatively, you may contact our music teacher Arianne Tan at connect@ariannetan.com for more information!

Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything. - Plato



How do I notify for an absence?



An SMS is sent daily for any students that have an unexplained absence.

The best way to notify us is to -

- ✓ **Reply** to the SMS message sent by the school daily. This is the easiest way to notify of the reason for absence when short notice is given. **Note:** we cannot reply to your SMS message if you ask a question.
- ✓ **Email** the teacher. This is particularly helpful where advance notice is given for travel and longer absences. Email addresses for staff can be found on our website - http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/principals_mess_age/Staff_contact_list
- ✓ **Email** the front office directly – maribyrnongPS@ed.act.edu.au

If you have any further questions, please contact the front office on 6142 0570.

Leanne, Ros, Emily and Cait.