TALLYGAROOPNA PRIMARY SCHOOL NO.3067



TERM 4 NO. 35 1st November 2021



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SCHOOL VALUES - RESPECT, HONESTY & INCLUSION

- 1. Restrictions Easing Some restrictions are easing today at schools which is pleasing. We can begin school tours again and also kinder transition programs can begin. Facemasks are still needed for staff and students in Grades 3-6, but staff no longer need to wear facemasks outside. All visitors on school sites are limited still to include contractors, external Department staff and building and maintenance staff. Parents are still encouraged to not enter school buildings - QR codes are essential if this is urgently needed. Visitors to school grounds must comply with vaccination requirements, density limits, face mask requirements, QR code check-ins and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.
- 2. Finalising Enrolments If any families are planning on potentially leaving the school for 2022, could you please contact David to have a general discussion. This will obviously remain confidential and private. This just helps with planning for the new year and finalising staffing, classes...etc for 2022. Currently, we are not aware of any families who have confirmed that they will be leaving for 2022 apart from our Grade 6 cohort of students.
- 3. Parent Payments (School Fees 2022) We are in the process of finalising contributions and payments in line with DET policy for 2022. These may be similar to what they have been in the past which will enable families to plan and budget accordingly. A Parent Payment Arrangements document will be sent to all families before the end of the year once approved at school council.
- 4. Production Organisation Over the next few weeks we will be practising for our long awaited production, Star Warts. This year we will be filming the production at the Outdoor Learning Space as we are unable to perform live at the hall with an audience. All students in Foundation to Grade 4 will need to bring a black shirt (named) to school as part of their costume. It would be appreciated if these could please be brought to school ASAP. We are hoping to record from Monday November 8th - Friday November 12th, and it is important students have their shirts at school so that filming can be undertaken in the afternoons as time permits. Shirts will be labelled with a tag and safety pin and kept in the 5/6 room. Shirts will need to remain at school until Week 7. If your child often wears a dress, could a black or navy pair of shorts, pants, leggings or even a skirt please be brought to school.
- 5. Face Masks There are a number of lawful reasons for not wearing a face mask, including for staff and students who are unable to wear a face mask due to the nature of their disability, medical or a mental health condition. Parent/carers of a student/s who meet the criteria for an exception should provide their approval in writing for their child/ren to not wear a mask to the school. Outside of lawful exceptions, schools should treat any deliberate and persistent non-compliance with the face masks direction as a serious matter. Usual school procedures for dealing with non-compliance with school rules should be followed.
- 6. Orientation Program We have rescheduled this program and the first 2 days will be held on Thursday 4th and Thursday 11th of November from 9am until 11am. These have been published on Facebook and also on Skool Loop and all families with children starting their first year of schooling have been informed. Students who go to the local Kinder will be walked back over the road at 10.55am and other children will need to be picked up by 11am please. We still need to be conscious of reducing the mixing of students so further dates and times will be confirmed hopefully this week - we plan on having 5 days in total, similar to past years.
- Sailing (Grade 5/6) This program will be offered to Grade 5/6 students on Wednesday 10th November permission forms were sent home last Friday and it would be appreciated if these are returned ASAP. We anticipate leaving by bus at 9am and returning at approximately 11.45am. The sailing program is from 9.30am until 11am and students attending will need to bring the following: a pair of old sneakers to wear in the yacht and walking on land, bathers and a towel, a windproof jacket if cold, sunscreen, a plastic bag for wet clothing, a change of clothes and a water bottle. Students will be changed into these clothes before they leave the school - please be prompt on this day because of the early start. Miss Lothian and Dee Palmer will attend this excursion and Mr Brodie may be there also. A big thank you to the Parents' Club for funding all of this program which was about \$35 per student from the money raised from the Chocolate Drive. This was originally going to help subsidise the Canberra Camp.
- 8. Regular Communication Families will need to be aware of notifications via Skool Loop in regard to disruptions at school in line with COVID-19. We are obviously going through an extreme situation at the moment and specific measures will need to be put in place to regularly communicate to our families updates in regard to any lockdowns, closures, remote learning...etc. As always, we will follow DET quidelines and advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer,
- 9. Curriculum Days Our last curriculum day for the year will be held on Monday 29th November (Report Writing). There will be no school or OSH Care on this day so families will need to make alternative arrangements.
- 10. Public Holiday A reminder about the Melbourne Cup public holiday on Tuesday 2nd November. There will be no school or OSH Care on this day so families will need to make alternative arrangements.
- 11. Melbourne & Funfields Excursions We will make a decision on these trips this week considering the risks in line with COVID-19. Alternative local excursions may be offered to students - stay tuned for more details.
- 12. Tutoring Program We are currently planning on how this may look in the new year and are aiming to contact specific families if possible in regard to student involvement in 2022. Stay tuned for more details.
- 13. Class Structures We are currently discussing staffing and grade structures for 2022. This takes some time and we will be aiming to announce these next week via the full edition of the newsletter.
- 14. Reports Semester 2 Some changes were highlighted in the newsletter last week in line with the disruptions with COVID-19. We anticipate that school reports for Semester 2 will be sent home to families on Monday 13th December.
- 15. School Council The last meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday 30th November. More specific information will be delivered via email closer to the meeting.
- 16. New Student Enrolment Forms (2022) It would be appreciated if these are handed in ASAP to assist with planning for 2022. Please don't delay it considering the current uncertainty with COVID-19. School tours are available by appointment. Please continue to promote our school as much as possible.
- 17. School Hats School hats are again compulsory for all staff and students when outside. This is in line with our Sun Smart & Heat Policy which states that children will be required to wear Cancer Council approved close-weave broad brimmed hats (at least 8 cm rigid brim) whenever they are outside from mid-August to the end of April or when UV levels reach 3 or above. Some leniency has been applied, but everyone should now have a hat - new ones can be purchased at the office if needed.
- 18. Absence Notes A reminder to families to do an online absence via Skool Loop whenever required this is the preferred method of notification. We have missed some of these of late - schools need to keep an accurate account of these as directed by DET. Please remember to have the correct date for any absence notification that is sent please.
- 19. Specialist Programs This week we will have Library and Music on Wednesday as per normal.
- 20. Sharing of Food The updated guidelines state that sharing of food is not permitted (ie: birthday cake), however pre-packaged food which doesn't require anyone to touch this food is ok (ie: lollipop). Please contact the Principal in regard to this, so that families can be informed (via Skool Loop / Dojo) and then make an informed decision in regard to participation.
- 21. Northerners Cricket The updated Northerners Junior Jets are seeking a couple of Under 10 players to top up 2 teams. Please get in touch with the club via Facebook or Lori Hall at mjljhall@bigpond.net.au