WELCOME BACK!!

Welcome to the 2016 school year. We have had a wonderful, smooth start to the year. We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and new year. Some schools however have been the targets of hoax phone calls.

Hoax phone calls to Victorian schools

As the principal of Portarlington Primary I would like to reassure you in light of the recent hoax threatening phone calls to Victorian schools in the last few days. Our school has not received such a call but I wanted to inform you that, like all schools, we have an emergency management plan in place for situations like this, and we practise it throughout the year.

Those schools which did receive a threatening call enacted their emergency management plans and they worked well.

The safety and wellbeing of our students is always our top priority.

If you have any questions please contact our office on 5259 2572.

Information and Reminders

Communication to Parents

We have a computer at the office that can be accessed by parents. Over the past two years we have slowly been moving to electronic Systems of communication.

- Email – newsletters
- Social Media – school updates and information (facebook)
- SMS messaging system
- COMPASS online student learning and administration platform

Parent Information Sessions available Wednesday 10th February at 2pm & 7pm
This year we will be fully online-

We are working towards full implementation of the COMPASS system.

At the end of last year, all parents were given their login details. Many parents have already logged in. The current MLC excursion parent permissions are all managed through COMPASS and our MLC parents have been sensational with this - thank you.

COMPASS will eventually be our major communication system where parents will log their children’s absences, give permission and make payments for excursions and events, receive newsletters and other notes that usually get sent home from school, view their children’s learning updates (in real time not as 6 monthly reports) and view the school calendar to check dates for different events at school. When parent information is uploaded to COMPASS you will receive an email alert. An app can also be installed on your phone or tablet to alert you to new notifications from our school. Please contact the office if you have lost your login details.

Facebook will be our main avenue to share what’s been happening at our school. Families are encouraged to like our page so that they can keep in touch. For those of you who don’t have your own Facebook profile, you can create one for the purposes of keeping up to date with our page. You do not have to use your profile like other people generally do, you can just use it to see what we are doing at school.

Our Newsletter will be published each fortnight on a Friday. This will be emailed to you (it will uploaded to COMPASS very shortly).

SMS messaging will continue for some information.

Kelly Club- Out of School Hours Care

We would like to welcome the Kelly Club team to our school as the new providers of our OSHC service. All bookings, management, organisation and communication is done by the team at the Kelly Club. The school no longer does this. Laura Bowen remains as the coordinator. We would like to welcome Rebecca Pavez as our OSHC assistant. Rebecca is also a parent of school (Xavier year 1). Xavier’s dad Frank runs Kelly Sports and his team will be looking forward to working with our children as the year progresses. Welcome Frank.

Please contact OSHC on 0477 758 412 to find out how you can book into the Kelly Club.
Welcome back to Kim Mikelsons who has returned from Family Leave. We are very pleased to welcome Wendy Newton back into her full-time role as an Education Support Officer and library technician.

Simone Nott has taken up a full-time position at The Grange P-12 College as a year 4 classroom teacher. We wish Simone every success for her new role and thank her for commitment and professionalism at Portarlington Primary School. Miria Lunn-Johnson is on Leave Without Pay and is currently working at Deakin University with pre-service teachers. Marnie is our site director for our student teachers so you will see her from time to time at Portarlington Primary.

Principal
Lesley-Ann Allbutt

Administration
Lisa Gale, Jo Twomey and ICT Technician Brendan Beattie

Wellbeing and Primary Welfare
Margaret Browne

Junior Learning Community Team-
Andrea Kayler-Thomson, Morgan Lee-Hickey, Mike Nelson, Brooke McLaren, Jackie Kaiser, Wendy Newton, Janine Elias (speech therapist)

Middle Learning Community
Renee Alo, Christopher Hester, Jo Twomey

Senior Learning Community
Katlyn Marchbank, Tim Mullen -Walsh

Specialist Teachers
Gabrielle Smales (PE/Sport), Kim Mikelsons (Indonesian), Tim O’Hara (Visual Arts)

Replacement Teachers
Michael Cain, Marlene Cain, Corinne Bentley (on occasions we may have other replacement teachers).

Handyman/Groundsman- Neil Sheard

Volunteers
Senior Learning Community -Kathleen Landells
Middle Learning Community – Pam McConaghy, Margaret Glass, June Fraser, Nadine Gray
Junior Learning Community- Jan Hall, Susan Pesa, Judy Swinburne
Prep – Karen Spark
School Council Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for the members of the Portarlington Primary School Council. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4pm on the 12th of February 2015.

Four parent vacancies for a term of 2 years are available for election. Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Weekly Assembly

Our whole school assembly is mostly held at 2.45pm on a Friday. There will be occasions when we do not hold an assembly (excursions etc). If there are any additional performances presented by our children, the assembly may begin earlier but we will notify you if there is a change to the time. Audience members are reminded to show respect to our school captains who run our assembly by not talking during the assembly.

Peanuts or Egg Products

We have some children who have life threatening allergies to peanuts and eggs. These reactions are serious and have required resuscitation in the past. To protect our children we eat food inside, we do not encourage the sharing of food and we supply hand sanitiser for the children to use after handling food. Our staff are trained every year in anaphylaxis first aid management. Thank you for not providing peanut and egg products in your child’s lunch or snack box. We really appreciate your concern and support for the safety of our precious children.

Asthma

If your child has asthma and their asthma management plan has been updated over the school holidays, could you please bring in the new plan so we can update our alerts for all staff.
"please remember" that foods such as quiche, bacon and egg pie etc are not included due to our egg free policy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT GOES IN MY LUNCHBOX</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRUIT</strong> <em>(2 PIECES)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SANDWICH, WRAP OR ALTERNATIVE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAIRY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VEGETABLES</strong> <em>(2 PIECES)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIBRE/GRAINS</strong> <em>(Wholegrains)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WATER</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Portarlington Primary
Extreme Weather

At school we can experience days of extreme weather—this could be rain, wind or heat. We have guidelines and procedures for extreme weather conditions which include ensuring the children are inside so that they are safe.

Depending on the weather, we may implement one or more of the following processes according to the conditions-
- Seek shade or cover
- Wear hats/coats/scarves
- Drink plenty of water
- Open the school hall
- Direct children to passive play in Library
- Instruct staff and students to remain in classrooms for break times
- Provide sunscreen
- Encourage parents to apply sunscreen and provide water bottles for their children

There is an urban myth that schools send children home when the thermometer hits a certain temperature—this is not the case and normal school hours apply. All classrooms have air conditioning.

Kids in Cars

Melbourne and greater Victoria will experience extremely high temperatures for the back to school period.
Parents and/or guardians are reminded that on hot days it is important never to leave children alone in a car.
Temperatures inside a parked car during summer can be around 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the outside temperature.
Leaving children in hot cars, even for a moment, can result in serious injury or death.
Young children's smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks.
If a parent or guardian is travelling with a child, never leave them alone in a parked car, not even for one moment.
School Crossing Safety

School Speed Zones are enforced from the commencement of the school year. There are speed limits in our school speed zones during specified times (8.00 - 9.30 am and 2.30 - 4.00 pm).

With the 2016 school year formally commencing, it is an opportune time for our school community to be reminded of the importance of road safety around our school. The children will be involved in road safety education and families are encouraged to also practise crossing the roads using the school crossings with their children.

Attendance –Everyday Counts-It’s not ok to be away!

The Victorian Government has important measures to ensure students attend school every day and get the most out of their schooling. Children and young people who attend school regularly and complete Year 12 or equivalent have better health and employment outcomes and higher incomes throughout their lives.

The Department has released revised student attendance guidelines. Since 1 January 2014, amendments to the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 have come into effect in relation to the enforcement of compulsory school enrolment and attendance. New procedures to implement the legislation took effect on March 1st, 2014.

This new legislation means that parents have received an Infringement Notice if their child misses five full days of school in a year without a reasonable excuse.

Please check your child’s 2015 December school report as it shows the days of absence that your child/ren had last year.
Emergency Management

We practise our emergency management plan every term. These procedures include on and off site evacuations and lock downs. To report any emergency please dial 000

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Shut The Gates Please

Could everyone leaving / arriving the school throughout the day please close the gates.

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NO SMOKING

Thank you for role modelling healthy behaviours. We have a NO SMOKING policy. This includes -

NO SMOKING on footpaths around the school or while you are picking up or dropping off children. You must go over the road.

NO SMOKING in cars parked around our school at any time.

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Keeping our Beautiful Children Safe in the Sun!
Hats must be worn outside commencing the 1st of September until the 1st of May each year.

The 2016 Calendar will be updated shortly.
FANCY A CUPPA? - PARENT CONNECT
Coffee (or tea or hot chocolate!) - Every Monday Morning at 9am in the Library

Our Parent Connect team has started a get-together of interested parents/carers (and some pre-schoolers who love playing with the toys). It is very informal. We have our great coffee and hot chocolate pods available (or tea if you prefer). It is a great way for our school community to get to know one another. Your children also see that you are connecting to our school in a positive way and that really helps to strengthen their sense of belonging which in turn supports them to be better learners.

Portarlington Market
Last Sunday of Every Month

Our monthly market is held at the park opposite the school and within the spacious facilities of Park Hall. The market is located on the picturesque Bellarine Peninsula overlooking the bay with views to the You Yangs mountain ranges. Inside and Outside stall holder spaces available.

Contact Details
Portarlington Primary School
100 Newcombe Street, Portarlington, Victoria, 3223.
Telephone: 52 59 25 72
Website: portps.vic.edu.au

Online Booking: trybooking
Mobile Telephone: 0408 108 869
Email: portarlingtonmarket@gmail.com

Follow Us!
Facebook: search Portarlington Market
Instagram: Portarlington Market
Twitter: @ppsmarket
**Reminder - Student Supervision**

Staff supervise the school yard between 8.40—9am, 11-11.30am, 1.40-2.15pm and 3.15-3.30pm.

Children arriving at school before 8.40am must be booked into the before school care program, Kelly Club as no supervision is provided before this time.

**Yard Supervision**

Please discuss this with your child. Our school yard is always supervised. Staff wear fluorescent vests for easy identification. Staff members may also be found in the office and staff room during break times. Passive play operates (with a teacher), at lunch time in the library.

**Walk to School Wednesdays**

Wednesdays are Walk to School Days every week. Great to see so many active travellers already! Leave your car at one of the markers (Ann Nichol house, Wiffen Park, or either one in Newcombe St) and walk, ride, scoot or skate with the children from there.

**Nude Food Lunch Boxes**

Bring lunch and snacks that are not dressed in any packaging and food that is wearing less sugar, salt and fat.

**Washing Roster**

First Aid Room

Jo Twomey
Second Bite Food

For 3 years now we have been making available food from Second Bite. This is a volunteer organisation which receive fruit and veg and bread from supermarkets and other providers to redistribute at no cost to the community. This has involved the collection of food boxes from Drysdale by school staff, sorting, washing and packing the food at our school to make it available on a Wednesday to our school families. Due to the time involved in this process, we are no longer able to continue to offer this service. Bellarine Community Health in Fenwick St has fresh fruit, vegetables, bread and non-perishables available on a Wednesday between 1pm and 3 pm since the opening of their food bank last year and they will be very happy to assist you. If you have a Health Care Card, Pension Card, DVA or other type of Government benefit, head down to BCH and get to know the lovely staff down there. Please make sure that you are there early as they close right on 3pm.

If you have any questions please see Margaret at school.

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Some Reminders for 2016

Second Hand uniforms:
We have a supply of second hand uniforms which are currently located in the corridor near the Indonesian room which is room 6. If you find an item which is suitable for your child, bring it to Margaret (Student Wellbeing) or Jo/Lisa at the office. They will help you. The stock of second hand uniforms is regularly replenished from unclaimed, un-named clothing which has been laundered. We will be buying some new racks to put the stock on and make it more accessible to you soon. Thank you to the parents who have donated good quality uniform items which children have outgrown. We really appreciate your support.

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Absences and Late Passes:
If your child is absent from school – please phone the office before 10am to explain the absence. It is important that absences are accurately recorded on our data system.
If you are running late – you must sign your child in at the office and have Jo/Lisa enter the attendance on the computer. The child collects a Late Pass Card to take to the classroom teacher.
Sprouts Lunch orders on Fridays:

Lunch orders are available every Friday. You will need to set up a log in at www.sproutscanteen.com and order from the Portarlington menu only.

If you had a log in last year, you need to do this again as a new system has been set up.

Payment is made online. Orders need to be lodged by **8am Friday morning** but preferably **the night before**. Late orders will not be processed. The menu is delicious, so give it a go. Orders are delivered to the school in individual recyclable packs at 1.15pm.

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School Uniform:
The students are looking amazing in their complete uniforms. If you can’t find an item, please ask, as we will do our best to make sure that we keep them all looking part of a team.

Hair: hair that is past shoulder length is to be tied up
Nail polish other than clear is not welcome
Bike shorts are only to be worn under a skirt or dress, not as a uniform item.
Leggings (dark blue only) can be worn under shorts, dress or skirt, not worn by itself with a long T shirt.
Shoes – runners or black school shoes only
Hair ties – dark blue or red
Jewellery- only sleepers or stud ear rings. No necklaces or any kind for safety.

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Conveyance & CSEF Forms

Conveyance Allowance Application forms and Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund application forms are now available at the office. If you believe that you are eligible please contact Lisa or Jo.

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COME PLAY LOCAL SOCCER

The Bellarine Sharks is a family friendly “good sports” club which plays its home games in St.Leonards. We have new change rooms and large clubrooms. All our teams train once per week and we play in the Geelong competition. In 2016 we plan to have Under 7,9,11,13, 15 teams and seniors of both Men and Women. The club still needs players for all its teams. Playing Shirts are supplied and costs are kept low to allow for maximum participation. Pre-season training will be held on the beach at Collendina Feb 14th and 28th.

For more information call Murray on 0417554828.

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VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

On Saturday 13th February our school will be holding a BBQ at the Ballerine Sunset Run and we are seeking volunteers to help. If you could please spare an hour to help, between 3.30pm - 8pm All help would greatly appreciated! Please leave your name and number with the ladies in the office. Or message Mel Singleton 0408 108 869 by Wednesday 10TH Feb.