

Term 1, Week 1  
1 February 2023

# Underbool Primary School News

## From the Principal and Staff

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to school for 2023. I would like to publicly acknowledge the work of Fiona, Jacinta, Catherine, Lozz, Kate, Raelene, Jo and Francey who completed a wonderful 2022 with strong teaching and learning and thorough assessments generating informative reports. Of course, it would be remiss of me not to mention the entertaining and wonderfully executed school concert. I thought it a proud moment in your children's educational journey.

2023 will bring with it a Whole School Review. The review will ask us all to reflect on the teaching and learning and educational opportunities of the past four years and set the direction for the next four years. It is scheduled for early second term. This will be an especially busy time for teachers, the school council as well as the wider school community.

In the classrooms the students have gotten off to a great start, reconnecting with classmates they haven't seen for a while and settling quickly into the routines of school. This year we welcome seven students into our school setting, five foundation students another grade one student and warmly welcome back Harvey into grade three.

Our swimming programme will begin on Monday. Students have been divided into four ability groups and will be under the instruction of Maureen Wandel. Jo Morrison will also be supporting the students at the pool. The classroom teachers will be supervising the students, fulfilling DET requirements. Sam Magnisalis will be our lifeguard. The upper school students will be walking to and from the pool, in the morning, supervised by Mr. Rinaldi. The middle school students will be transported by private car. Jo Goodman and Jacinta Rowles are licensed drivers. Jacinta will remain at the pool. In the afternoon the two groups of junior swimmers will be driven to the pool. Again, Jacinta and Jo will transport the student to and from the venue. In the afternoon Francey Brown will also be poolside to support the students. The programme will run for 9 days of instruction and on the final 10<sup>th</sup> day, a sports carnival day with Tempy Primary School is programmed.

NAPLAN will be held during Term 1 from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Students in grades 3 and 5 will be asked to sit the Test which will be conducted online. Hopefully, assessments will be completed and reports sent to teachers more expediently so that we can tailor the teaching and learning to cater to the individual needs of students more accurately.

Stay safe and optimistic

Jim, Fiona, Jacinta, Jo, Lozz, Francey and Kate



### Important Dates

#### February

Monday 6th—Thurs. 16th  
Swimming Program

Friday 17th  
School Swimming Sports  
with Tempy @Underbool

Tuesday 21st  
UDSSA Swimming  
Sports@Ouyen

School Council— date TBC

#### March

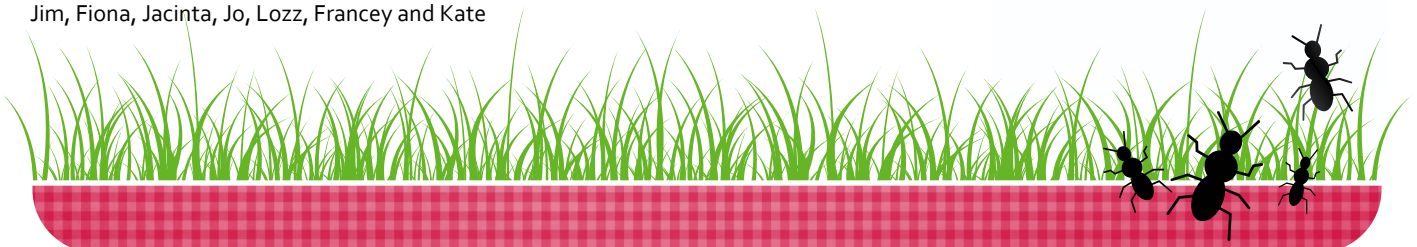
Thursday 2nd  
Pancake Day at school

Monday 13th  
Labour Day Holiday

Wed. 15th—Mon. 27th  
NAPLAN Grade 3 & 5

#### April

Thursday April 6th  
Last Day Term One - finish  
at 2.30pm



### School Contact Numbers

5094 6342

0478 662 394

A reminder to our families that if you wish to contact the school, the preferred method of communication is via the landline or mobile phone number above.

### Birthdays

On Monday, we sang happy birthday to Emmy who turned five in January. Happy Birthday Emmy! We hope that you had a fantastic day.



## Swimming

Starts: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February (Daily Sessions)

Finishes: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February

UPS/Tempy PS Swimming Sports: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February at Underbool

Students will be attending the pool in small groups, at various times throughout the day. The swimming program is being coordinated by Maureen Wandel and Jo Morrison. Additional support is being provided by Mr Rinaldi, Ms Rowles and Francey will attend the afternoon sessions. A life guard will also be present at all times.



The earliest group will be walking to and from the pool, all other groups will be transported in staff vehicles.

Students will be dismissed from school, as per normal at the end of the day.

*All students will need: Sun smart bathers/rashie, towel, slip on shoes, hat, own sunscreen if required. A suitable carry bag for dry and wet gear.*

Students will be informed of their swimming time this week.

Parents of Foundation students who would like their child to attend their Wednesday swimming session, please contact Mrs Scott.

## Staying safe from mosquitoes

Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. A range of mosquito-borne diseases has recently been detected in mosquitoes in northern Victoria. Mosquito-borne diseases can cause serious illness, including infections of the brain, with children, particularly at risk.

**The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.**

In line with community health advice, families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- Use insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March
- Wear long, loose-fitting clothing outdoors if possible if mosquitoes are around and covering exposed skin as much as possible. Summer school uniforms, including polos and shorts, can continue to be worn, but students should use insect repellent on exposed skin if mosquitoes are active
- Limit outdoor activity whilst mosquitoes are active.

Further information: Better Health Channel





## New Preps

We were excited to welcome five new preps yesterday. Everyone has settled in well and we hope that you have a wonderful adventure along the way!

*Pictured: Emmy, Claire, Henry, Avia (Grade 1) and Jasper.*

Following are prep dates for Term 1:

### Week

1	Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February	OFF	
2	Wednesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> February	OFF	SWIMMING WEEK
3	Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> February	OFF	SWIMMING WEEK
4	Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	OFF	
5	Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March	OFF	
6	Wednesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March	OFF	
7	Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> March	(Labour Day OFF)	4-day week
8	20 <sup>th</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> March	FULL WEEK	
9	27 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup> March	FULL WEEK	
10	3rd to 6th April		4 day week

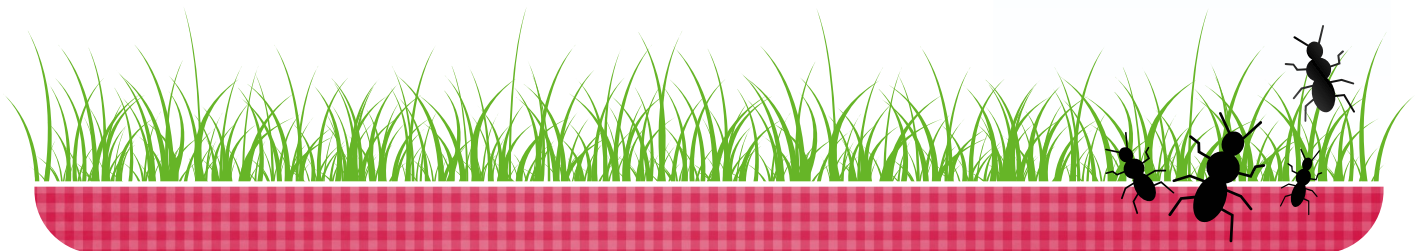
7<sup>th</sup> April: Term 1 Holidays Begin - Good Friday

### Book Club Orders

Book Club orders are to be placed online via the LOOP parent payment platform.

We are unable to accept any cash payments. Please find attached a step by step guideline to assist families with this process.

Please contact Jacinta if you require assistance.



## Building Works

Building works commenced in mid January and are progressing this week. The works zone is barricaded so that students and staff are protected from the works.

Students have adapted well to the change with entry to the main school building through the front doors.

We are all enjoying our breaks including lunch and morning tea at the front of the building with the garden, which is flourishing around us.

Thank you all for your patience as we navigate through this change.



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