



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

### Road Works Update

Our new Roundabout has been completed in a fairly quick timeframe and I thank the construction team for their communication with the neighbourhood and school community, to assist in our traffic movement over the past few weeks. I hope this roundabout significantly improves the traffic flow along Heatherhill Road at peak times. I ask our families to please follow the traffic signage at all times, to prevent unnecessary congestion, and to keep everyone safe. Again, sincere thanks to our amazing parents for your patience in the last few weeks.

### Canteen

Our canteen reopened this week, to the delight of our students. Please see menu attached to this newsletter to assist with snack and lunch choices. Children are required to pre-order through the bag system in their classroom. The online ordering is not available at the moment. Therefore, if your child has a lunch order on any day, please ensure they know this and will be able to communicate to their teacher, as lunch orders are taken to the canteen in the morning and lunches are collected and brought back to the child's classroom at lunchtime, which is 12.50pm. All children eat their lunch from 12.50– 1.00pm before heading off to play with their friends.



### House Swimming– Friday 18th February

We are very excited to run our 'Yr 3-6 House Swimming Competition' next Friday 18th February. Ms Sutcliffe, our PE teacher, has sent information out to parents via Sentral. Please complete the survey to assist teachers in placing children into events they are capable of competing in. Everyone earns House points by turning up and having a go in swimming and novelty events. All swimming capability levels are catered for. Please return permission forms and the swimming survey as soon as possible. Parent Helpers are welcome on the day. Contact Ms Sutcliffe if you can help.

### Athletics Week 5– Friday 4th March

Once the House Swimming competition has been completed, our Yr 3-6 House Athletics Carnival will follow, Friday 4th March. Save this date, it is always a fantastic day and our children participate with great enthusiasm and in excellent team spirit. Our P-2 House Aths is always held at school on this day, so the children feel they are a part of the aths carnival. The P-2 House Athletics will be a highlight for these year levels. Parents are welcome to this event to show support for their child and the school.

### Enrolments for Prep in 2023

Enrolments are now open for families. The office staff are waiting to process all sibling enrolments. We can email you an enrolment form or you can collect this from the office. We ask for all sibling enrolments to be completed by the end of February. Can parents let the office know if they have a sibling for Prep 2023 enrolment and we will include all details on our database. Thanking you in advance for your assistance with our enrolment process.

### Working Bee– Sunday 13th Feb, 8.30am start.

I will see our families at our Working Bee on Sunday from 8.30am. It will be a great day to continue to beautify our school grounds. BYO wheelbarrows for all the mulch and soil to be spread. There's lots of weeding, sweeping of pathways, whipper snipping around fences and general clean up areas. Weather will be warm. Let's make the most of this glorious day to help our school.

### School Council Election

School Council has 4 Parent Vacancies for the next year. An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Frankston Heights Primary School. Parent nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00pm on 25/02/2022.

Have a wonderful weekend, keep safe and take care.  
Kind Regards, Cheryl Clark

## IMPORTANT DATES

Term 1	
Feb 13	Working bee (8:30-11am)
Feb 18	L3-6 House Swimming (Frankston High) Prep MOI assessments
Feb 25	District swimming trials (Pines Pool) Prep MOI assessments
Mar 4	L1-2 House Athletics (FHPS) L3-6 House Athletics (Ballam Park)
Mar 8&9	Meet the Teacher interviews
Mar 10, 17 & 24	L5-6 Body Education with Kelly Nash
Mar 11	L1 Craft Power incursion
Mar 14	Labour Day Public Holiday
Mar 15	Curriculum Day
Mar 25	National Day Against Bullying and Violence including Alpha Theatre visit
Apr 1	L3-6 Track Athletics (Ballam Park)
Apr 8	Easter Hat Parade Last Day of Term 1 Students dismissed at 2:30pm

# COVIDSafe Information for Parents

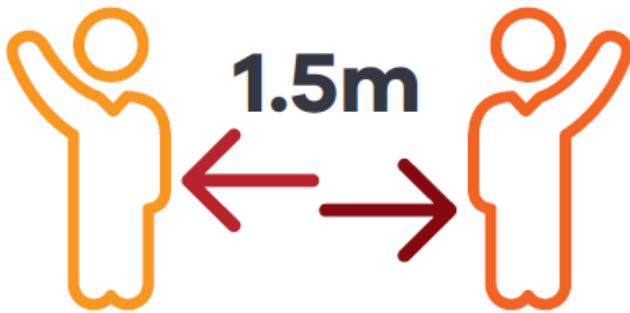
FHPS is thrilled to welcome parents back into our school grounds.

In the interests of public health and the wellbeing of our school community, parents are requested to adhere to the requirements listed below.

1. Parents can enter the school grounds for student drop off and pick up.
2. Parents are not permitted to enter any classrooms or learning spaces without an appointment.
3. Parents can come onsite to attend term one outdoor school activities but must adhere to COVIDSafe requirements: physical distancing, face mask requirements, cough etiquette and good hand hygiene.
4. Parents entering the main office building must check in using the QR code on the entry door, be fully vaccinated and wear a face mask, unless they hold a medical exemption.

## COVID-19 restrictions remain in place

During drop-off and pick-up of your child remember to keep 1.5m between yourself and other adults.



For detailed information visit: [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

## COVID-19 restrictions remain in place

All visitors and volunteers entering school buildings must be fully vaccinated.



The only exceptions are:

- providing medical treatment to your child
- collecting your unwell child
- briefly attending school with no staff/student contact
- if you show evidence of a medical exception to vaccination
- accessing an early childhood education and care service

## Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to school

The Department of Education does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents/carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to look into their preferred options in this regard. The Department cannot provide advice to parents/carers on the purchase of individual student accident policy or ambulance cover.

Private property brought to school by students, or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys and sporting equipment.

As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property, students are strongly discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

### **Annual Privacy Reminder**

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website [add link to your school's collection statement].

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

# A message from the Assistant Principal.

## Welcome back to 2022.

Hope all your students have had a great start. Feel free to call me if you would like to ask any questions about your child's year.

## Every Day Counts

### Attendance fact sheet for primary school students

School is better when you're here

### Do I have to go to school?

Yes, in Victoria everyone aged from 6 – 17 has to go to school.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing 4 whole weeks of school a year.

From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

School is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you are away and wonder if you are OK.

### WHY IS IMPORTANT THAT I GO TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

Right now, being at school is the most important thing you need to do for your future. School helps you build good habits for later on in life. You might think school is just about Maths and English but you're also learning about how to work with other people and how to solve problems.



Being at school every day also means you are becoming more independent as a learner and interacting with your friends and teachers. If you are at school you can get help from your teachers and friends and won't have to try to learn things in your own time.

Being an adult probably seems far away but we know that young people who attend school more frequently have better outcomes after school too. This means they earn more money, have better job opportunities and are generally healthier. So being at school really does make a difference!

### Do my parents need to let the school know if I'm going to be away?

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away.

If you're away from school too much and don't have a reasonable excuse like a serious illness, your parents might get a letter from the principal asking about why you're away.

### Are there any good reasons to be away from school?

No. Unless you are so sick you can't get out of bed or there is an event like a funeral, you should be at school. Every day you are away is a day of classes and social connection you miss out on. Taking a day off for your birthday or go shopping isn't a good reason to miss school.

Even medical and health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays. This includes family holidays. Your parents are encouraged not to plan holidays during the term but to organise these during the school holidays.

If you do have to be away for some reason, your parents need to contact the school and let them know what's going on. Depending on the situation, the school might provide schoolwork for you to complete.

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## If I'm not at school what do I miss out on?

You miss out on all the big stuff – class discussions and all the interaction that happens in a classroom, the chance to get help from teachers and the opportunity to practice skills and gain knowledge.

Being away means you might miss out on a lot of learning or that you need to catch up in your time.

If all of that isn't enough to convince you to be at school every day, being away also means you also miss out on playing with your friends. Being away from school a lot can be lonely. It has a big impact on relationships and social connections.

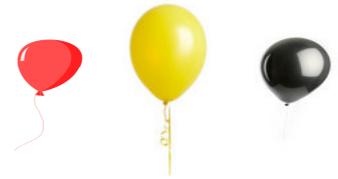
Believe it or not, everyone wants you at school and it really is better when you attend.

## What if I'm having problems getting to school?

Getting to school on time everyday can be about having a good routine.

If you find yourself running late or missing school because you're disorganised, try:

- Asking your parents for help getting ready
- Having a set time to go to bed
- Leaving all technology out of your bedroom
- Packing your school bag the night before with everything you need
- Having a set time for breakfast
- Planning to meet up with a friend so you can travel to school together.



Sometimes, though it can just be hard to go to school.

You might feel overwhelmed by the work or things might be tough with your friends. Maybe you don't feel safe at school or you really dislike a teacher or things at home aren't great. Perhaps you're feeling down or anxious and don't even really know why.

Whatever the situation is, staying away from school isn't the answer. Many people want to help you. Try talking to:

- Your parents or another adult family member
- A trusted teacher
- Wellbeing Coordinator or the school counsellor
- Another trusted adult like your coach
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**Have a great weekend,  
Jodi Craig  
Assistant Principal, Wellbeing & Inclusion**



# SENTRAL NEWS

## APP & Portal Registration

Welcome back to the 2022 school year!

It has been very impressive to see that many of our new families have registered for the Sentral Parent app and portal. FHPS uses Sentral to communicate information about school events and student learning to parents. It is important that all parents register for the app and portal.

The app and portal allow parents to:

- Stay informed and up to date with school information through targeted news feeds
- ◆ Be notified of student absences, respond to unexplained absences or advise the school in advance of planned absences
- ◆ View school and year level newsletters
- ◆ Receive their child's/children's reports electronically
- ◆ Book term one meet the teacher and term two three way conferences.
- ◆ Communicate with class and specialist teachers
- ◆ Approve and pay for student activities, including excursions and camps (**coming in term 2**)

If you are a new family to FHPS and have not yet registered for the Sentral portal and app, please check your email for registration details. Parents are required to enter their unique access key to finalise the registration process. This is provided in the registration email that was sent out to all new families last week.

Separated parents who are not listed as their child's/children's primary contact can register for the app and portal. Please contact the school to organise access to Sentral.

If you are unsure how to register or require assistance please direct your query to Michelle Smith on 9783 4988.

## Meet Your Child's Class Teacher

Term 1 meet the teacher interviews will be held on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th March.

The interview provides parents with an opportunity to meet their child's class teacher, discuss how their child has settled into the new school year and share information about their child's learning.

Interview bookings will open on Sentral from Friday February 25th and close Monday March 7. Booking details and instructions will be published in the next school newsletter.

**Michelle Smith**  
**Assistant Principal**

# FHPS Term 1 Working Bee

## FHPS SCHOOL COMMUNITY WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BEAUTIFY OUR GROUNDS

**This Sunday February 13  
8:30-11am**

**Jobs include:**

- Weeding gardens
- Hedging plants
- Levelling dirt
- Spreading mulch
- Clearing leaf debris



**BYO wheelbarrows, garden gloves,  
rakes, brooms, shovels**

**Many hands make light work.  
Come and join us on Sunday morning.**



# SENTRAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## NOTIFYING THE SCHOOL OF A STUDENT ABSENCE

Regular attendance at school is important for students to reach their potential. Parents are required to inform the school if their child is absent from school. This process can be completed easily using the **Sentral Parent Portal** or **Sentral for Parents app**.

1. Log on to the Sentral **Parent Portal** or the **Parent app**
2. Select the **absences** tab
3. In the parent portal select the '**Notify of an absence**' tab.

On the parent app select the **+ symbol** in the top right hand corner.

4. Select the name of the **child** that is absent. This will place a tick by their name.
5. Using the drop down list, select the **type** of absence. e.g. illness, medical
6. Select the **Start Date** for the absence from the Calendar.
7. Select the **End Date** for the absence from the Calendar.
8. Type in a Comment explaining the reason for the absence.
9. Click the **Submit/Send** button.

< **New Absence**

Students  
Select students

Reason  
Please provide a reason

Start Date 19/08/2021 End Date 19/08/2021

Comment  
Please provide any additional information

Submit

## RESPONDING TO NOTIFICATIONS OF UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

If parents do not provide a reason for their child's absence, notifications of unexplained absences will appear in the newsfeed on the app and the home feed in the portal. To provide an explanation for the absence parents need to :

1. Click on the absence
2. Enter the absence reason in the text box provided.

**Parents are also advised to check unexplained student absences via the absences tab on the portal or app.**

1. Log on to the Sentral parent portal or the parent app
2. Select the absences tab
3. Any unexplained absences will appear
4. Select the unexplained absence and provide an explanation.
5. Select submit to send reason for absence to the school.

Messages

Absences

Newsletters

Date absent: Wednesday, 18 August 2021 Type: Whole Day  
Reason: Whole Day (Unexplained)

Explanation

Submit



# SENTRAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## UPDATING CONTACT DETAILS ON SENTRAL

**It is imperative that the school has the current contact details of all parents.**

If your address, contact number or child's emergency contact details have changed, please log on to the portal or select the cog in the top left hand corner of the parent app to update your information .

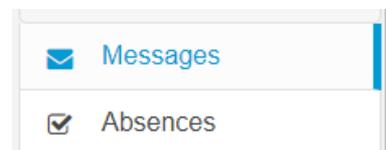
1. Log on to the parent portal or parent app
2. In the portal go to the left hand menu on the home page and select **My Details** or on the app select the cog in the top left corner and tap the **Account Details tab** to see your current details such as: family and emergency contacts and student details.
3. To edit a section, click the **Edit** button for the detail you want to change.
4. The data that can be edited appears on the right side of the screen.
5. Make the necessary change and click **Submit Details**.

## MESSAGING TEACHERS FROM THE PORTAL

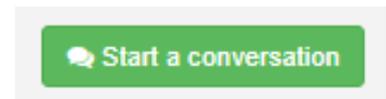
**In addition to the school email and Seesaw for P-2 families, messaging on Sentral through the parent portal or app can be used by parents to contact teachers directly.**

To message a teacher from the parent portal:

1. Go to the FHPS website and click on the **SENTRAL** tab
2. Log onto the FHPS parent portal using your user name and password
3. Click on the **MESSAGES** tab on your home page



4. Click on **Start a conversation**



5. Select the teacher you wish to communicate with from the drop down menu under **Teacher**

**New Conversation**

Teacher  
Select

Subject  
Subject

Message

Attachments Send

6. Enter the **Subject**

7. Type **Message**

8. Click **Send**

Direct queries to Michelle Smith—Assistant Principal