



### Diary Dates

#### November

- Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> – Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday
- Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> – Hesket Cup Sports Day
- Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – School Council
- Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> – Prep 2022 Transition #1 (TBC)
- Tues 30<sup>th</sup> – Prep 2022 Transition #2 (TBC)

#### December

- Mon 6<sup>th</sup> – School Council
- Tues 7<sup>th</sup> – Prep 2022 Transition #3 (TBC)
- Tues 7<sup>th</sup> – Grade Six/Year Seven Transition Day (TBC)
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> - Last Day of 2021 School – normal finish time
- Fri 16<sup>th</sup> – Curriculum Day

It is so lovely to have all our grades back on site today and Hesket played its part by producing some perfect weather.

As we've come to expect from our students, they've taken returning to school in their stride. What we've seen is students who were active in remote learning from home, return to school, showing that their learning has continued. What a credit to the staff, the students and of course our parent community. Once again (with optimism) I'd like to congratulate our whole team as I hope we will now finish the year uninterrupted.

I feel it is deserving to give our Grade Three to Six students a pat on the back for the way in which they adapted to wearing masks. There is a consensus from students that they are uncomfortable to wear, but there is also an understanding that they are an important part of keeping themselves and their friends safe.

Today I have participated in an online webinar that addressed the processes in place should a positive Covid case be identified at our school. It is incredibly important that you notify me immediately of any positive cases that may impact the school. At this point we would begin the process of identifying primary close contacts, and with DET and DHHS, it will be determined whether we are required to close.

In the interim, the following measures have been put in place:

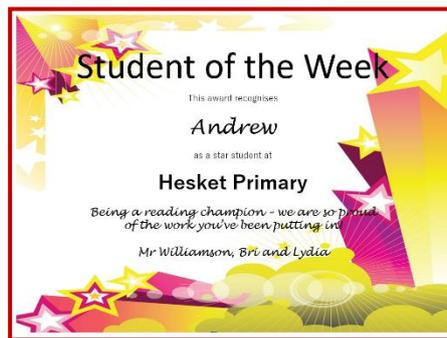
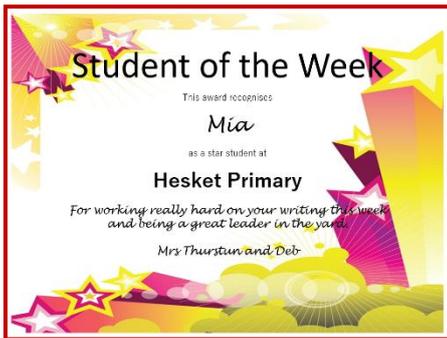
- students are being separated as much as they can be in their classrooms
- all classroom windows are opened each morning to maximise ventilation
- children in Grade Three to Six are wearing masks in the classroom with breaks when moving and playing outside
- children in Junior grades are also being recommended to wear masks at similar times
- staff are wearing masks except when teaching, including on yard duty
- daily hygiene cleans are being carried out with particular attention to high-touch areas
- students are also being reminded of the importance of social distancing and general hygiene.

If your child is finding wearing a mask particularly challenging, please speak to their classroom teacher so more 'mask breaks' can be adopted. We are all very sympathetic of the restrictive nature and discomfort of mask wearing, especially in the early days of wearing.

### Playing in the Yard

And moving to something a little lighter. I just wanted to share a new little Hesket lunchtime tradition. Each day, students from all grade levels have been volunteering to run a whole-school game. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to demonstrate leadership skills and to organise and communicate with the group. This week Aurelia, Heidi, Zoe, Emily, Ada, Brooklyn, Amy, Mackenzie, Mia, Andrew, Huddy, Hunter, Harvey and Leo all enthusiastically took the opportunity. To see less confident students or even our Preps this week step up and organise a game is something special.





### Students of the Week

Congratulations to our Students of the Week who have clearly impressed their teachers this week. Mia has been working hard on her writing, Andrew on his reading and Heidi has been trying her very best in the classroom too. Well done to you all!

### Next Week's Lunch Order – Subway

Just a little reminder that next Wednesday we will be having Subway for lunch. Envelopes will be sent home early next week.



### COVID19 (Summary of updates – from last week)

- From Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of October, all students in Grades Three to Six are required to wear a mask. The school has disposable masks that can be tied to fit students if required. The Victorian Chief Officer strongly recommends all children at primary schools wear masks.
- All students will resume onsite learning full time from the 26<sup>th</sup> of October, subject to public health advice.
- OSHC (School's Out) is open to children attending school on the relevant day for the year level AND other children eligible for onsite supervision and learning.
- The playground is available for school use and for community use outside of school hours.
- School tours are not permitted at this stage.
- Excursions, incursions, and camps are not permitted at this stage.
- The Kinder transition program is still to be confirmed. The dates listed in the Diary Dates map out a program we hope to run.
- Grade Six transition day is still to be confirmed.
- Instrumental lessons can resume with recommended ventilation and physical distancing in place.
- Ventilation audits and CO2 monitoring are being conducted on a sample of schools. DET will commence delivering air purifying units to schools from Term Four. We do not yet know when ours will arrive.
- Where practical, doors and windows will be open to support good ventilation.
- All school staff will have had their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine by the 18<sup>th</sup> of October and will be fully vaccinated by the 29<sup>th</sup> of November. All visiting allied health staff, CRTs, professional learning providers, cleaners, student teachers and parents who are volunteering in the school will also need to be vaccinated.
- Good hand hygiene, school cleaning and social distancing will continue to be priorities.



The following is DET Information relates to mask wearing:

#### Students in Grade 3 and Above

- Face masks will be required for all school students in Grade 3 and above indoors, including at Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) programs, unless a lawful exception applies. Face masks can be removed while outdoors at school for primary students.
- Students in Grades 3 to 6 are required to wear face masks from 18 October 2021. All other students who are required to wear a face mask must continue to do so from the first day they return to onsite learning.
- Face masks are strongly recommended for Prep to Year 2 students.

- For composite classes of Grade 2 and 3 students, Grade 2 students will be strongly encouraged to wear masks like their Grade 3 peers.
- Students with a medical condition or disability that make wearing a face covering unsuitable are not required to wear a mask.
- Face masks are required for students in Grade 3 to Grade 6 unless an exception applies. Exceptions include students with a physical or mental disability where their disability means it would not be suitable. Parent/carers of a student/s who meet the criteria for an exception must provide their approval in writing for their child/ren to not wear a mask to the school.

The staff will continue to try to talk positively about mask wearing as well as modelling positive behaviours. Once again, we thank you for your support.

### SunSmart

Just a reminder that we are a SunSmart school and in Term One and Term Four it is a requirement that students wear their school wide brimmed SunSmart hats.



### Some Happy Snaps from This Week

