



Mentone Park Primary School



Welcome to Cameron's Corner

What a start! Already the children have been back to school for less than two weeks and school life sure has moved at a rapid pace. Last week we welcomed our new Foundation students as well as a number of students at a variety of levels. Students (and staff) have made new friends, met new teachers, planned lots of exciting events for both the term and the year, started our specialist's programs, and settled into class routines splendidly.

Travelling around the school to visit the classrooms, I have been amazed at how well the students have settled in to their learning. Our new Foundation students look like they have been here for months and our middle and senior students have hit the ground running, which is a testament to everyone involved. Students have completed a range of activities that help build strong relationships with their teachers and peers, and established a path for a happy and successful year of learning.

The struggles of lockdown and isolation last year highlighted the importance of connection. Forming and cementing strong relationships will build trust and respect as teachers and students get to know each other: each child's interests, family members, friends, experiences, hopes, fears, etc. significant as we personalize learning.

Thank you to our community for respecting the very sudden changes to school yard and building access this week. As protocols change, schools are asked to be immediately responsive and I would like to thank all of you for your understanding.

- Parents / Guardians may enter the office area only. There is no access to other school buildings.
- Families may access the yard for pick up and drop off but social distancing is still a requirement.
- If you can encourage your child's independence and resilience, try dropping them at the gate and let them make their own way to their room.
- Sanitizing protocols are in place in all classrooms.

Normally at this time we are planning our "Get to Know You" interviews, which are currently scheduled for Tuesday Feb 23 but with alterations to restrictions in the past few days we are looking at the option of moving them to an online platform instead of on-site as we had originally scheduled. We will keep you informed as protocols change.

In the last week of 2020 I informed our community that we were successful in obtaining a Primary Mathematics and Science Specialist grant, which will give us a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) Specialist teacher for the 2021/22 school years. We received official notification earlier this week and put the job advertisement online the same day. This position is currently advertised and we anticipate this beginning at the start of March. As part of this appointment, the successful applicant will also run our tutoring program in conjunction with the classroom teacher. This enhanced learning program will be a key feature of student engagement, support and extension.

Yesterday, February 4, I met with our architects to begin the process of designing our new learning areas. We looked at numerous options regarding landscaping, buildings, locations and educational philosophies and then planned our meetings for the next few months. They will work with our school council and wider community to ensure our new building is the perfect complement to the exemplary work done by our teaching and learning staff.

We are also looking at some other building and facilities projects including fencing and painting.

Finally, earlier this week I was informed that Trisha Brumbaugh was successful in obtaining a Business manager's position at Botanic Ridge PS. This is a wonderful promotion for Trisha and an exciting opportunity to expand her already highly accomplished set of skills. They are currently without a Business Manager and have asked Trisha to start next week so today will be her last day with us. She will however come back next week for a morning tea and suitable recognition of her commitment to our school.



Thank you families for assisting your children to transition so smoothly back into school routines and I look forward to catching up in the year over the coming weeks.

Kind Regards and take care,
Cameron

Student Permission Forms

This year we will not be reprinting the Student Permission Form for Local Excursions, Media Release, PG Viewing and Head Lice inspections, or the E-Learning Code of Conduct, where you have already signed one. If you would like more information about the permissions, or would like to change your preferences, please find the forms on our website or contact the office.

MPPS Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

Monday 1 – Friday 5	Senior School Water Safety Lessons
Friday 12	Grades 3 – 6 House Swimming Carnival
Monday 22	Marine Ambassadors Dolphin Swim
Tuesday 23	“Meet the Teacher” Parent Teacher Meetings 2pm – 7pm
Friday 26 th	Grades 5/6 Interschool Sport (home)

MARCH

Tuesday 2 – Friday 5	Senior School Camp
Wednesday 3	District Swimming (Eligible Senior Students)
Monday 8	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 9	Grades 3/4 Ecolink Excursion
Friday 12	Grades 5/6 Interschool Sport (home)
Friday 19	Grades 5/6 Interschool Sport (Mordialloc)
Friday 26	Grades 5/6 Interschool Sport Gala Day

APRIL

Thursday 1	Last Day of Term 1, 2.30pm finish
Friday 2	Good Friday Public Holiday

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments; your child has started or changed schools this year.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.





SERVICING MENTONE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
Available on Monday, Wednesday & Friday!
Order ONLINE until 8.30am on the DAY LUNCH IS REQUIRED

LUNCH ITEM ONE

SALADS

- Greek Style Salad with Feta and Olives (V, GF)
- Pic(k)nic Box – Vegetarian (V, GF)
- Pic(k)nic Box with Ham (GF)
- Mexican Inspired Salad (V, GF)
- Quinoa, Tabouli & Tuna Salad (GF)
- Tuna Mix with Brown Rice & Quinoa Cakes (V, GF)

SUSHI

- Teriyaki Chicken Hand Rolls (2)
- Cooked Tuna Hand Rolls (2)
- Avocado Hand Rolls (2)
- Cucumber Hand Rolls (2)
- Vegetarian Hand Rolls (2)

BAKERY

- Cheese and Bacon Roll
- Cheese and Vegemite Scroll (w/m)
- SCROLL with Ham & Cheese
- Semi Dried Tomato and Olive ROLL
- Topped with Only Cheese Roll

PITA PIZZAS

- Margherita Pita Pizza
- Ham and Pineapple Pita Pizza
- Fresh Tomato and Italian Herb Pita Pizza
- Spinach and Feta Pita Pizza

SANDWICHES, ROLLS & WRAPS

- Turkey, Cranberry, Lettuce and Cheese Sandwich
- Gluten Free Ham & Cheese Sandwich (GF)
- Simple Salad Roll (V)
- Cucumber & Ham Sandwich (GF)
- Vegemite Sandwich (2)
- Mild Salami and Salad Roll
- Plain Cheese Sandwich (2)
- Roast Beef, Fruit Chutney, Cheese and Lettuce Roll
- Cheese and Salad Roll
- Wholegrain Cheese and Tomato Sandwich
- WRAP (GF) Ham and Salad
- Wholegrain Ham and Cheese Sandwich
- Chicken and Salad Roll

LUNCH ITEM TWO/THREE

FRESH FRUIT & VEG

- Fresh Fruit Combo
- Freshly chopped Strawberries & Grapes
- Lightly Steamed Corn wheels & Broccoli pieces
- Celery & Carrot Sticks with Sultanas
- Freshly chopped Watermelon pieces
- Chopped Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum
- Whole Fruit – Banana
- Apple pieces with Lemon Juice, Cinnamon & Brown Sugar
- Sugar Snap Peas, Beans & Cherry Tomatoes
- Cantaloupe & Watermelon pieces
- Edamame (Lightly Salted)
- Cherry Tomatoes with Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers
- Freshly chopped Orange Segments

YOGHURT

- Strawberry Chobani Yoghurt
- Blueberry Chobani Yoghurt
- Passionfruit Chobani Yoghurt
- Plain Chobani Yoghurt

BAKED GOODS

- Choc Chip Cookie
- Hot Cross Bun
- Finger Bun with Sprinkles
- Hedgehog Slice
- Choc Cup Cake (GF,DF)
- Blueberry Muffin

DIPS & CRACKERS

- Tzatziki Dip with Rice Crackers
- Avocado Dip with Rice Crackers
- Spring Onion Dip with Rice Crackers

POPCORN/SNACKS

- Cobs Popcorn, Lightly Salted
- Cobs Popcorn Slightly Sweet, Lightly Salted
- Lightly salted Fav'va Beans
- Chickpeas with Lime & Black Pepper
- Balsamic & Sea Salt Fav'va Beans

DRINKS

- Apple Juice
- Orange Juice
- Full Cream Milk
- Nippy's Chocolate Milk
- So Good Soy Milk

Healthy, Interesting & Affordable Lunches Delivered to School!
More information about Our Offering including:
Pricing, Ingredients and Portion Size is available on the Our Menu Page at

www.classroomcuisine.com.au

Art Smart Online

**FANTASTIC AFTER SCHOOL ART CLASSES
AT THE SCHOOL OR ONLINE!**

**LIMITED PLACES!
FIRST CLASS IS FREE FOR NEW STUDENTS!**

**DRAWING, PAINTING, SCULPTURE AND A WHOLE VARIETY
OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF MATERIALS AND ART.**

**WE TRY TO PROVIDE AS MUCH
VARIETY AS POSSIBLE.**

ONLINE COST: \$12.50 PER SESSION

To book and see the schedule visit: www.artsmartforkids.com.au

ON CAMPUS COST: \$16.50 PER SESSION, plus an additional \$29 per term
for materials used.

To book and see the schedule visit: www.artsmartkidz.com

**Prices exclude GST. Payment is invoiced at the start of each term and will
vary from term to term depending on the number of classes.**



Any queries email hello@artsmartforkids.com.au



Skills for life

- Limelight students work to a performance every term.
- Term classes for performance skills and confidence.
- School Holiday Workshops in Richmond and Thornbury. Stay 9-5pm, half a day or 1 or 2 days out of 5.
- Kinder Programs.

LIMELIGHT CLASSES ARE IN YOUR SCHOOL!

Limelight Drama is more than just an extra-curricular activity; The program is designed by qualified teachers and professional performers; it lifts confidence, aids social skills, builds empathy and also refers the aspiring performer to professional work in Film, Tv, Theatre and Musicals. Our students have appeared in Tangle, Neighbours and films such as Where the Wild Things are and Jyndabyne.



Call now for a free trial class Ph: 0407 537 305

COMMUNITY MESSAGES & ADVERTISEMENTS

The Department of Education & Early Childhood Development and Mentone Park Primary School do not endorse the products or services of any private advertiser. They accept no responsibility for accuracy of information contained in advertisements or claims made by them.



Kilbreda College
A Kilbare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine Tradition



*Kilbreda College – a top 10 Victorian Catholic secondary school**

Become a Kilbreda Girl

At Kilbreda, we recognise that each young woman is unique, bringing different gifts, talents and individual needs with her. Our programs are tailored to foster an inclusive, nurturing culture that encourages a sense of pride, purpose and belonging.

Join us for one of our regular open events to discover all that Kilbreda can offer your daughter.

Please refer to our website for further details.

* Based on 2020 VCE results

   kilbreda.vic.edu.au