



THE RAMBLER

Strong in the heart and Smart in the head

Principal: Dennis Mitchell
Assistant Principals: Mark Rogerson & Mat McLeod

Thursday 25 February 2021
Volume 28 Issue #4

RESPECT PRIDE SAFETY

Ranfurly Families Meet The Teachers and Enjoy a Barbeque



'It's Not OK To Be Away' and 'It's Great If You're Not Late'

PRINCIPAL'S THOUGHTS

Our Great School Community

On Thursday night I was reminded once again of the terrific support we have in our school community with our Family BBQ/ Open Classrooms event being a massive success! It was tremendous to see so many of our families here on site again after almost 12 months of restrictions. Chatting with parents, teachers and kids made us feel full of pride! Thanks everyone for a great night!

Learning Talks

Later on in the term we will have our “Learning Talks”, which is a new format to get you more involved in your child’s classroom learning. This event will be where you are seeing and hearing about learning goals and what your child is working on right now.

Here at school we talk about “*what I know – what I’m learning – what I’m learning next*” this will be the time this is shared with families and it’s your opportunity to ask questions and have input into the learning goals.

We are really excited about this change and really look forward to sharing this with you all.

School Council Nominations / Elections

Yesterday the school called for nominations for our School Council Elections. This process is open to all parents in the school and I encourage any parent wishing to nominate to contact the office. If you decide to stand for election, you can self-nominate or arrange to be nominated and seconded by persons who are eligible for the same category as you will stand for. I can provide information about these categories. The appropriate nomination forms are available at the Office from Thursday 24th February.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the Principal (or front office) within the time stated on the notice of election.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the week after the call for nominations has closed.

Who is on the school council? - There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category.

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the

council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

An elected Student member category (2 positions)

Members of this category must be enrolled at the school (mandatory in year 7 or above)

Dennis, Mark & Mat

‘It’s Not OK To Be Away’ and ‘It’s Great If You’re Not Late’

HEADLICE

Recently there have been numerous cases of Head Lice reported in the school. To assist in reducing the spread of head lice we ask that you please check your child/ren's head(s) for the presence of any eggs as soon as possible. No action is needed if eggs are not present in your child's hair.

In accordance with the current Head lice Policy, if eggs are found in your child's hair appropriate treatment must be applied to remove these eggs. Your child may return to school as soon as the appropriate treatment has been undertaken.



The school relies on your co-operation in this matter and appreciates your assistance.

RANFURLY BREAKING NEWS



Check out Ranfurly Primary School's first 'Ranfurly Breaking News' episode, written, created and produced by the 'RBN' FLIP (Flexible, Learning, Innovative Program) group.

This QR code is a direct link. Please take the time to support our students and see their amazing production.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why are parents/carers required to sign their children out at the office before the end of school?

A. If a parent/guardian needs to pick up their child/ren or have family member/friend (with permission) pick up their child they must go **directly to the office to sign them out.** They will be given a Departure Pass by one of the office staff and they take this to the classroom or specialist teacher at the time. It is Ranfurly Policy to ensure the safety of all students when under the school's supervision. It means that we have a record of the person collecting the child and the time of collection in the event of an emergency. **Teachers are directed not to release children unless the parent/carer has the early departure pass.**

CSEF

(Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund)

If you have a Health Care or Pension Card you may be eligible to apply for CSEF. Please call in to the office anytime between 8.00am and 4.00pm to fill out an application. Please bring your current card to be copied.

NB If you have received CSEF in previous years, you **DO NOT** need to fill out a new application unless you have a new child commencing school this year.

SCHOOL CAMPS

The CSEF is \$125.00, which WILL BE used for School Camps, unless your child will not be attending camp. If your child is in year 4, 5 or 6, the cost is generally more than this. We are more than happy for you to commence paying instalments for these camps now so you can avoid the last minute panic of having to find the money. If you have any questions please contact the office.



Ranfurly Primary School

'It's Not OK To Be Away' and 'It's Great If You're Not Late'

RANFURLY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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www.ranfurlyps.vic.edu.au



SCHOOL UPDATES

MARCH 2021

Mon 8	Labour Day Holiday—No school
Fri 19	Pupil Free Day
Mar 25	School Photo Day
Mar 31	Cross Country

APRIL 2021

Thu 1	Last Day Term 1, 1.30pm dismissal
Fri 2	Good Friday Holiday

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS

BREAKFAST CLUB

Reminder that students should not be hungry before school.

We have a wonderful **BREAKFAST CLUB** at Ranfurly Primary that operates every school day from 7.30am and finishes at 8.40 am in the 5/6 Building. All students are welcome to come along and have a full breakfast or just a 'top up' before school if they wish. The Breakfast Club is a completely free program.



We have a great range of Chicken Burgers!

Big/Little/Chilli

Yum! Check them out!!

Great lunch with a chocolate milk or your favourite juice!




School Car Park

The School Car Park is for staff car parking, disabled car parking and deliveries to the school **only**. In order to protect the safety of all children, we ask that parents **do not** park in the school car park or bus loop to drop off or pick up children. The staff car park gate is also not to be used for pedestrian access. Children and parents are **not** permitted to enter or leave the school via the staff car park gate for safety reasons. Please use footpath access points.







'It's Not OK To Be Away' and 'It's Great If You're Not Late'

Preps Term 1 @ a Glance

	Stars of the Week	BIRTHDAYS 21 st February – Owen-John Smith 24 th February – Kyrie Lowther 27 th February – Chloe Reberger 28 th February – Aria Dogan
	Room PA: Charlee Hawke for remembering all of the sounds and being able to read the words. Room PG: Shae-Leigh Taylor for excellent 6 L's of Listening and Learning. Room PM: Kyrie Lowther for excellent sounds work. Room PL: Myah Parfrey for amazing 6L's of Listening and Learning and attempting all tasks happily.	Awards:
Next Week's Unit Topics		SPECIAL EVENTS/REMINDERS
Literacy: Numeracy: Developmental Learning: YCDI:	We are learning the sounds of these letters 'S,A,T,I,M'. Number: Counting Families Zones of Regulation	Don't forget to return your Health Nurse notes to your class teacher. Class Dojo – It's great to see so many parents join Class Dojo. It's a great communication tool between parents and school. See your child's teacher if you need any assistance to get connected. Tissues for classrooms – it would be greatly appreciated if families could please donate a box of tissues to your child's classroom. Thank you in advance. It was great to see so many families at our Ranfurly BBQ! Thanks for coming!

Years 1/2 Week @ a Glance

Stars of the Week 		Birthdays 	
Room 1L:	Chris Hamilton for excellent effort during our phonics lessons. Your enthusiasm is brilliant Chris, keep it up!	27 th February	Loki Anderson Nate Wilson
Room 1H:	Lucas May for his hard work and enthusiastic attitude during phonics. Keep up the awesome work Lucas!	28th February	Kaiyden Gray-Stacey
Room 2B:	Charli Deiesi for coming to school ready to learn. You are a fantastic role model for 'The Ranfurly Way'. Keep up the awesome effort!	1st March	Lucy Mitchell
Room 2W:	Savannah Macumber for her confident reading to the teacher.		
Room 1/2D:	Karneshia De Been for being focused and doing her best learning. Keep up the good work Karneshia!		
Grade 1/2 News		Special Notices and Events	
Numeracy Literacy Integrated Studies	<p style="color: green; text-align: center;">Our focus in the classroom this week...</p> <p>Place Value</p> <p>Grade 1-</p> <p>Sounds we are learning: s,a,t,i,m,n,o,p,b,c,g,h</p> <p>Grade 2–</p> <p>Non-Fiction Text</p> <p>Then & Now</p>	<p>Monday 8th March-Labour Day Holiday</p> <p>Friday 19th March- Pupil Free day</p> <p>Thursday 25th March- School photos </p> <p>Wednesday 31st March- Cross Country </p>	

YEAR 3/4 TERM 1 @ A GLANCE

STARS OF THE WEEK



ROOM 3D: Bella Sandiman for becoming more confident and using a louder voice when sharing her ideas with others. Well done Bella!

ROOM 3F: Hunter Edwards for fantastic organisation each morning. Well done Hunter!

ROOM 3M: Ashlynn Williams for having a wonderful start to the year and showing fantastic organisational skills. Well done Ashlynn!

ROOM 4B: Avah Peters for her helpful and positive attitude to the start of Grade 4. Well Done Avah!

ROOM 4R: Zayden Warr, for always being a contributing member of our class and showing great persistence. You have had an incredible start to the year. Well done Zayden!

ROOM 4T: Kaiden Piawi for being a caring hardworking boy and fantastic role model in 4T.

AWARDS



This Week's Unit Topics

LITERACY:

Making Connections and Narrative Writing

NUMERACY:

Place Value

BIRTHDAYS



Jack Clark 27th of February

Izayah McCoy 28th of February

NOTICE BOARD



Term 1 'No hat, No play' policy

Homework is due on Fridays :)

Year 5/6 Unit@ a Glance—Term 1

Stars of the Week!



56C: Kamahl Gocol for demonstrating persistence while participating in leadership activities at Lake Cullulleraine Camp. Well done Kamahl!

56S: Nicko Johnson for being enthusiastic towards all activities at the Grade 56 Lake Extravaganza!

56B: Storm Binder for showing sensational leadership and persistence when participating in the activities at the Lake Cullulleraine Leadership Camp.

56T: Somaia Gulzari for her application and effort as part of the 'Lake Cullulleraine Leadership Event'.

56H: Lucy Coombes for showing persistence and being a cooperative team member while at Lake Cullulleraine Camp.

Birthdays!

56C: Tezmen Roberts February 27th,
Jypsie McKenzie 19th February

56S:

56B:

56T:

56H: Korban Griffiths February 26th
Brittney Ah-See March 2nd



Upcoming Events/Reminders

A few reminders;

- Home Reading Diaries need to be signed and brought to school daily.
- Homework for spelling and maths are due tomorrow.

Regards, the 5/6 Team

Next Week's Unit Topics

Literacy: narrative writing

Numeracy: Place Value

PARENT PAYMENT POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION

Ranfurly Primary School

2021 Parent Payment Policy

PURPOSE

To ensure that parent payment practices are consistent, transparent and ensure that all children have access to the standard curriculum.

RATIONALE

The Victorian community shares a vision to build an education system that champions excellence and ensures that every child and young person has access to the opportunities to succeed in life, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Schools are best placed to make local decisions which ensure that all students can access a broad range of learning opportunities that support their expectations and promote their aspirations as they move through the education system. Parent contribution, in all forms, assists schools to provide an enriched learning and teaching program for every student and is highly valued by school communities.

Learning and teaching programs vary across schools based on local needs and circumstances and reflect each school's priorities, decisions and resources. This, in turn, informs the parent payment charges approved by school councils that may vary from one school to the next.

What can schools charge for?

The Education and Training Reform Act 2006 provides for instruction in the standard curriculum program to be free to all students in government schools. School councils are responsible for developing and approving school-level parent payment charges and can request payments from parents¹ under three categories only- Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items and Voluntary Financial Contributions.

Essential Student Learning Items are those items, activities or services that are essential to support student learning of the standard curriculum. These are items that the school considers essential for all students and which students take possession of. Parents may choose to provide the items themselves or buy the items from the school where practical and appropriate.

Optional Items are those items, activities or services that are offered in addition to or support instruction in the standard curriculum program. These are provided on a user-pays basis so that if parents choose to access them for students, they are required to pay for them.

Voluntary Financial Contributions

Parents can be invited to make a donation to the school for a general or specific purpose, e.g. school grounds projects, library fund or for new equipment. Only some Voluntary Financial Contributions are tax-deductible.

The attached diagram "**Understanding Parent Payment Categories**" provides examples of items and materials under each category.

In implementing this policy, schools must adhere to the following principles:

PRINCIPLES

- **Educational value:** Student learning, aspirations and wellbeing are paramount when schools determine their parent payments practices
- **Access, equity and inclusion:** All students have access to the standard curriculum program and participation of all students to the full school program is facilitated
- **Affordability:** Cost to parents is kept to a minimum and is affordable for most families at the school
- **Engagement and Support:** Early identification and engagement strategies by the school ensure parents are well informed of the payment options and supports available for those experiencing hardship
- **Respect and Confidentiality:** Parents and students experiencing hardship are treated with respect, dignity, sensitivity and without judgment and the identity and personal information of all parents and students are kept confidential in respect to parent payments
- **Transparency and Accountability:** School parent payment practices are well communicated, clear and transparent and their impact on student programs and families are reviewed by school councils

COST AND SUPPORT TO PARENTS

When school councils consider the proposed requests for parent payments the cost is kept to a minimum and is affordable to most parents at the school.

School principals must ensure that:

- items students consume or take possession of are accurately costed
- payment requests are broadly itemised within the appropriate category

¹ Parent' in the policy has the same meaning as in the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, which is: 'parent', in relation to a child, includes a guardian and every person who has parental responsibility for the child including parental responsibility under the *Family Law Act 1975* of the Commonwealth and any person with whom a child normally or regularly resides.

- parents are advised that they have the option of purchasing equivalent Essential Student Learning Items themselves, in consultation with the school
- information on payment options is available, accessible and easily understood to all parents so that they know what to expect and what supports they can access
- parents are provided with early notice of annual payment requests for school fees (i.e. a minimum of six weeks' notice prior to the end of the previous school year). This enables parents to save and budget accordingly.
- parents are provided with reasonable notice of any other payment requests that arise during the school year- ensuring parents have a clear understanding of the full financial contribution being sought
- the status and details of any financial arrangements are kept confidential and only shared with relevant school personnel
- parents experiencing hardship are not pursued for outstanding school fees from one year to the next
- use of debt collectors to obtain outstanding school funds owed to the school from parents is not permitted
- there will be only one reminder notice to parents for voluntary financial contributions per year
- Invoices/statements for unpaid essential or optional items accepted by parents are not generated more than monthly or according to the parent payment arrangement with the school.

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Families may experience financial difficulties and may be unable to meet the full or part payments requested. Principals and school councils exercise sensitivity to the differing financial circumstances of students and their families when considering parent payment fees. There are a range of support options available to support and assist parents. These can be accessed through ["Cost support for families."](#)

Consideration to hardship arrangements in respect to payment requests is provided to families experiencing long term hardship or short term crisis on a confidential, case by case basis. All schools have written hardship arrangements that include a proactive approach to providing support for parents experiencing financial difficulty.

All parents are provided the name and contact details of a nominated parent payment contact person at the school who they can discuss payment arrangements with.

ENGAGING WITH PARENTS

In respect to each school's development of its parent payments, school councils will engage in effective communication with the school community and have strategies in place to ensure they are aware of and understand the needs and views of parents.

REVIEW OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Schools will monitor the effectiveness and impact of the implementation of this policy at least annually as part of its ongoing improvement and report back to the school community.

The full Parent Payment Policy is available from the Department's [School Policy and Advisory Guide](#). Answers to the most commonly asked questions about school costs for parents see:

[Frequently Asked Questions – For Parents](#)

Parent Payment Charges

- Ranfurly Primary School aims to minimise the cost incurred by families, however, to enrich and support the educational experience some subject fees are required. In most cases these fees are to ensure a broad range of activities to strengthen the learning and understanding of students both within and outside of classrooms.

PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND METHODS

Payment methods

Payments can be made by BPAY, EFTPOS, cash or cheque. Families will receive a statement of amounts owing before the end of February.

Receipts will be issued immediately upon making payment.

Payment arrangements

Instalment payment plan arrangements

The school appreciates that there can sometimes be financial difficulties experienced by parents and guardians in meeting requests for payments and contributions. A range of support options and flexible payment options are available to assist parents and guardians in this regard; application can be made to the school for a suitable fee payment arrangement.

Camp & excursion payments

Camp and excursion costs are to be approved by School Council as early as practical to ensure adequate notice for parents to make payments or to arrange appropriate payment plans.

FAMILY SUPPORT OPTIONS

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the cost 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.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors; excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sport teaches teamwork and discipline and encourages leadership. All are part of a healthy balanced curriculum.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

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

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download the form from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Applications must be received by the School's office as soon as possible after school commences, payments are made from March. Applications will be accepted and processed up until the end of term two each year.

State Schools Relief

State Schools' Relief works closely with all government schools across Victoria. Assistance with school items such as uniforms, shoes and other essential items is provided to families.

State Schools' Relief only responds to requests from schools. Parents are encouraged to talk to either the Principal or Assistant Principal.

For more information go to: www.ssr.net.au/schools/

CONSIDERATION OF HARDSHIP

No student will be treated differently at Ranfurly Primary School or denied access to facilities or activities or refused instruction to the standard curriculum program for not making financial contributions in the event of financial hardship.

Ranfurly Primary School has three Parent Payment Contact Officers; Principal, Assistant Principal or Business Manager.

Financial support provided by the school will be dependent on the individual circumstances of the financial situation put forward; support may be, but not limited to; extension of payment plans to be completed after an event, activity attendance prior to payment, referral to external family support options such as State Schools Relief. Further options are listed on the DET Parent Payment Policy website.

In extreme hardship the Principal may waive the contribution.

Note: In reflecting on the school's hardship arrangements, Ranfurly Primary School staff may proactively engage with parents disconnected from the school who may be experiencing hardship, such as discretely approaching families who may need support and special payment arrangements to ensure students are able to participate in all activities.

COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES

- The Parent Payment Policy will be provided to all families upon enrolment. These documents, along with the Participation & Refunds for Extra Curricular Activities, Camps & Excursion Policy, are available from the school office.
- After approval by School Council the Parent Payment Policy will be communicated to the school community via the newsletter at the commencement of each school year.
- Grievances should, in the first instance, be made in writing to the Principal or Assistant Principal. A response will be made as soon as possible to any grievance received, with the aim of a resolution suitable to all parties. If the grievance remains unresolved the family may make further appeal to the Ranfurly Primary School Council.

MONITORING AND REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY

- Ranfurly Primary School Council has a key role in ensuring the approach to parent payments reflects the shared expectations of the whole school community and is, therefore responsible for monitoring effectiveness and impact on parents and students.
- Ranfurly Primary School Council will annually review the policy to ensure the transparency of processes and how this policy is communicated to parents.

Date of approval by School Council

Understanding Parent Payment Categories

Schools

What does the legislation say?

The Education and Training Reform Act (2006) provides for free instruction in the standard curriculum program to all students in government schools. The Act also empowers school councils to charge fees to parents for goods and services provided by the school to a child.

In the Act, a 'Parent' includes a guardian and every person who has parental responsibility for a child including parental responsibility under the Commonwealth Family Law Act 1975 and any person with whom a child normally or regularly resides.

What do schools pay for as part of 'free instruction'?



Free instruction is the teaching staff, administration and the provision of facilities in connection with the instruction of the standard curriculum program, including reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.

The standard curriculum for Years F-10 means implementation of the Victorian Curriculum F-10.

The standard curriculum for senior secondary schools means a program that enables a student to be awarded a VCE or VCAL qualification.

What principles govern parent payment practice?

Educational Value | Access, Equity & Inclusion | Affordability

Engagement & Support | Respect & Confidentiality | Transparency & Accountability

Parents

What may parents be asked to pay for?

Schools can request payment for Essential Student Learning Items



These are items, activities or services that the school deems **essential** to student learning of the standard curriculum.

Where practical and appropriate, parents may choose to purchase items through the school or provide their own.

These may also be either:

Items the student takes temporary or permanent possession of

- e.g.
- textbooks, activity books, exercise books
- stationery, book bags
- student ID cards, locks
- cooking ingredients students will consume
- materials for final products that students take home (technology projects, build-your-own kits, dioramas)
- Picture Exchange Communication Systems

Activities associated with instruction that all students are expected to attend

i.e. travel, entry fees or accommodation

- e.g.
- excursions
- incursions
- school sports
- work placements

Parents can be asked to pay for items, activities and services in the three Parent Payment Categories:

Essential Student Learning Items, Optional Items and Voluntary Financial Contributions.

Schools determine how items, activities and services are classified within these categories based on the learning and teaching program of their school.

Schools can request payment for Optional Items

These are items, activities or services that are **optional** and are offered in addition to the standard curriculum.

Students may access these on a user-pays basis.

These may be either:

Items the student purchases or hires

- e.g.
- school magazines, class photos
- functions, formals, graduation dinners
- materials for extra curricular programs
- student accident insurance

Activities the student purchases

- e.g.
- fees for extra curricular programs or activities, such as instrumental music tuition
- fees for guest speakers
- camps, excursions, incursions, sports
- entry fees for school run performances

Items and/or materials that are more expensive than required to meet the standard curriculum

- e.g.
- use of silver in metal work instead of copper
- supplementary exam revision guides

Support for families experiencing hardship is available at every school and each school has a parent payment contact person. See your school's policy for more information.

For more information on Parent Payments and Personal Devices, visit the DET website at: www.education.vic.gov.au

Schools can invite
Voluntary Financial Contributions
for



- e.g.
- Building or Library fund (Tax deductible)
- Voluntary contributions for a specific purpose, such as equipment, materials, services.
- General voluntary contributions