



Principal's Letter

Round 4 of lockdown in Melbourne has been very difficult for so many. When I've met with our teachers online during the week, they have commented on how impressed they are with the engagement of our students and the commitment and support that has been shown by the parents in our school community. I thank each and every one of you who encourage your child to be on time and ready to participate in their fun WebEx sessions as well as their Seesaw activities. Thank you for praising your child for their hard work. It certainly helps their motivation to keep going when they know the parents are supporting them.

Keeping a regular routine during this time is key to good mental health. It's important that you stick to sleeping and eating routines as much as possible. Drinking plenty of water and eating healthy food, all help to improve your family's health as well as getting out in the fresh air to go for a walk or bike ride when you can.

Remember this is a challenging time for a lot of people and if you do need support, please reach out. If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing, please speak to your child's teacher. There are other supports available to parents such as [Parentline](#) which provides confidential and anonymous counselling. There is also [Lifeline](#) and [Beyond Blue](#).

Take care of yourselves and I look forward to seeing our returning students soon.

Warm regards,

Lee Bullock
Principal



Book Club

ISSUE 4 is OUT NOW!

Orders to be submitted by:
Monday 14th June 2021

Check out the new issue [HERE](#) and place your order via the Book Club Loop for parents app

Term Dates 2021

Term 2 – 19 April – 25 June

Term 3 – 12 July – 17 September

Term 4 – 4 October – 17 December

Upcoming Events 2021

Monday 14 June – School Closed for Queen's Birthday

Tuesday 15 June – Student Support Group meetings via WebEx or onsite (Rooms 2-9)

Wednesday 16 & Thursday 17 June – Student Support Group meetings via WebEx or onsite (Early Ed Program)

Friday 25 June – 2pm finish, last day of term

Monday 12 July – School Closed for Pupil Free Day

Monday 30 August – Friday 3 September – Father's Day Stall

Friday 10 September – School Photo Day

Friday 17 September – 2pm finish, last day of term

Monday 1 November – School Closed for Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 2 November – School Closed for Melbourne Cup Day

Thursday 11 November – Music Concert 6:30pm

Tuesday 14 December – Graduation night

Thursday 16 December – 2pm Finish and End of Year Party

Friday 17 December – Clean up day

Student Support Group Meetings (SSGs)

A friendly reminder to book in your meeting time with your students teacher via conferences on Compass.



If you are having trouble booking a time online please don't hesitate to contact the school office for assistance.



SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT – Parent Visit Program

Parents of children eligible for secondary school in 2022 or 2023 are invited to accompany our Leading Teacher, Karen, to visit Victorian College for the Deaf on **Wednesday, 23rd June**.

This visit will showcase what VCD has to offer your child and help inform your important secondary school enrolment decision.

Parents can either go directly to VCD for a 10am start or be driven by Karen in the Furlong Park school bus, departing our school at 9:15am.

Please RSVP by Friday, 18 June to: 9312 3244 or furlong.park.ds@education.vic.gov.au

Room 4 student in the news!



If you happened to watch a popular ABC show BEHIND THE NEWS last week you would have seen one of our students appear on the screen.

Sam was interviewed by his family who sent in his contributions for the BTN Newsbreak

in episode 86. Students talked about the issue of another lockdown for Melbourne. They appeared on screen explaining how they felt with the recent extension to the 7-day lockdown resulting in 14 days for Melbourne in this current outbreak.

Sam shared how he was frustrated with another lockdown but wished everyone “good luck” knowing we can all get through it.

Well done Sam and your family for encouraging us all in these different and challenging times. We need more people like you who are keen to tell others that **WE CAN DO THIS!**

You can watch the video [HERE](#)



Compass | Powering Schools.

New features to make you 'App-y.'

New and improved App makes Compass even easier to use 24/7.

Available for Android and iOS.
Update or download today.

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play



Education and Training Reform Amendment (Protection of School Communities) Bill 2021:

Victorian school communities are overwhelmingly positive and safe places for teaching and learning where we all play a role in supporting students in their achievements, engagement and wellbeing needs.

It is likely that you have heard the recent media announcements that the Victorian Government has introduced the Education and Training Reform Amendment (Protection of School Communities) Bill 2021. If passed through parliament, the proposed Bill would come into effect in May 2022.

The Bill aims to protect and keep school communities safe by preventing and deterring violent and aggressive behaviours from adult members of the school community and ensure that schools are positive, safe and inclusive places to work and learn. This Bill will apply to the small minority of adult members of the Victorian school community who engage in this behaviour, after early conflict resolution measures through non-legislative avenues have failed.

The proposed law will empower principals and other authorised persons to issue School Community Safety Orders in response to parents, carers and other adult members of the school community who engage in harmful, threatening, abusive or disruptive behaviours on school grounds or places where school activities take place, or inappropriate and harmful communication through emails and social media.

This Bill will apply to the small minority of the school community who engage in this behaviour when all other reasonable interventions have failed. The changes would ensure that all members of the school community are kept safe and to minimise any harm to their safety and wellbeing. There will be internal and external review mechanisms in place if a person who is subject to a School Community Safety Order wishes to appeal an Order.

Arrangements will be available to ensure parents can still remain engaged in their child's learning to and to minimise any disruption to the student.

This Bill would not replace the existing avenues to raise any complaints, issues or suggestions with schools. By continuing to engage with these communication channels in a respectful and collaborative manner, we can continue to work together to support our students

Further information about the details of the Bill will be communicated to you if the Bill is passed by parliament.

Excursion to the Werribee Zoo



On Tuesday 25 May, Rooms 8 & 9 went on an excursion to Werribee Zoo. They went on the Safari bus and saw all the animals that live on the savannah. Giraffes, zebras, rhinoceros, and antelopes were seen on the trail. They especially liked watching the meerkats eating grubs and had a lot of fun playing on the playground too. It was a zootastic day!





NAIDOC Week

In the week of Monday 21 June, Furlong Park School for Deaf Children will be celebrating NAIDOC Week. NAIDOC Week is officially between the 4th and 11th of July, but Furlong Park will be celebrating it earlier as we are on school holidays during that week.

What is NAIDOC Week?

NAIDOC stands for 'National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee'. NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week is significant in our school community as the activities allow our children and staff to recognise and appreciate the contributions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made to Australia.



The theme for this year is 'Heal Country'. In Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, the word 'Country' refers to the spiritual connection that Aboriginal peoples have with their land. Aboriginal peoples share dreamtime stories about their Country, and believe that they all have the responsibility to look after the landforms, water ways, plants and animals in their Country.

The students at Furlong Park will be exploring a dreamtime story about Bunjil, who Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples believe created their Country. The students will also learn the meanings behind each colour in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

Toy fun in Room 2

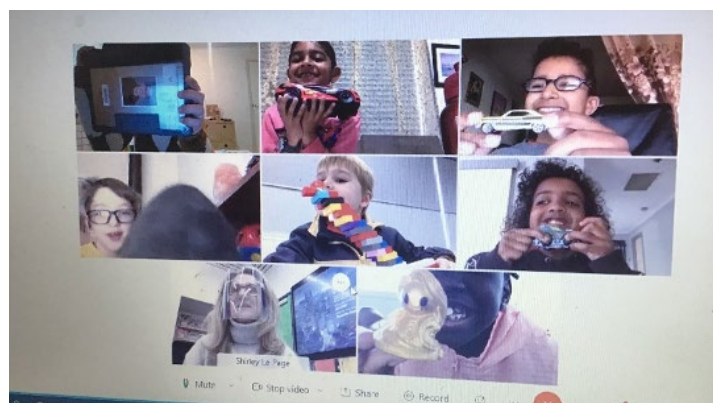
Room 2 students have been doing some excellent work on their Seesaw learning tasks. They have really enjoyed seeing their friends during daily Webex sessions. It has been amazing to see all of the students trying their best and doing some fantastic work. A big thankyou to all of the families who have been supporting the students. In one of our sessions we decided to have some fun and had a Show and Tell of our toys. We had big and small, fast and soft toys and students enjoyed sharing and seeing each other's toys.

ES Appreciation Day

Education Support (ES) staff work to keep our schools running, support our students to learn and help our teachers to teach on a daily basis... so we celebrated our hardworking ES staff, including classroom ES, office/admin staff and speech pathologist, by having an 'ES Appreciation Day' on Friday 14 May.

The focus of this day was to let our wonderful ES know how much they are appreciated. Each of our ES received cards from students, a small gift from the school, and morning tea. Our school captains, Gebremedhin and Lilly-Jane, also gave a speech, highlighting our ES's wonderful work.

Thank you to our wonderful ES staff. We hope you had a lovely day!





VISIT VICTORIAN COLLEGE FOR THE DEAF AS PART OF OUR **PARENT VISIT PROGRAM**



FURLONG PARK SCHOOL FOR DEAF CHILDREN WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE, 2021

- 10:00** Arrival
- 10:15** Sit in on a secondary maths class
- 10:30** Morning tea with the Principal, Marg, and Assistant Principal, Amanda. Learn about our:
- teaching and learning approach
 - numeracy and literacy resources
 - ask any questions you may have
- 11:00** Sit in on our secondary literacy classes and see what we do
- 11:15** Secondary student presentation in the Library
- 11:30** Visit Ablock, our working bike shop
- Discuss pathways at VCD
 - More time for questions
- 12:15** Depart VCD and return to Furlong Park School for Deaf Children



VICTORIAN COLLEGE FOR THE DEAF
597 ST KILDA ROAD, MELBOURNE VIC 3004
PH: (03) 9510 1706 E: VICTORIAN.DS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU