



## Principal's Note

Term 4 is always a busy time of year. There are many exciting things to look forward to, World Teachers' Day, Primary Deaf Sports Day, Graduation celebrations and End of Year parties!

One event that has been in our calendar every year for the past 10 years, is our annual Music Concert. The past two years has seen this go online. This year, the staff and students are very excited to have it back in the Sunshine College hall in front of a live audience. It's the one time of the year that our whole school community comes together to watch and listen to the wonderful music and dance performed by our talented students. This year, we have an added feature of showcasing the students' artwork. I encourage you to open your diary now, lock in the music concert on Thursday 17 November and we will see you there!

The building works are now well under way. Our Administration Office has moved to the portable building next door and the Early Education Program have smoothly transitioned to being in another space towards the back of our school. I look forward to seeing the final result!

Warm regards  
Lee Bullock  
*Principal*

## School closed

School will be closed on **Monday 31 October** for Pupil Free Day and **Tuesday 1 November** for the Melbourne Cup Public Holiday. Enjoy your four-day weekend!



## Term Dates 2022

**Term 3:** Monday 11 July – Friday 16 September

**Term 4:** Monday 3 October – Tuesday 20 December

## Term Dates 2023

**Term 1:** Monday 30 January for School aged children

## Upcoming Events 2022

**Every Friday** – 2:15pm Assembly – Parents and Family Welcome

**Thursday 27 October** – Primary Deaf Sports Day – Parents are welcome!

**Friday 28 October** – World Teacher's Day

**Monday 31 October** – School Closed for Pupil Free Day

**Tuesday 1 November** – School Closed for Melbourne Cup

**Friday 11 November** – Remembrance Day

**Thursday 17 November** – School Music Concert @ 6:30pm

**Tuesday 6 December** – SSGs for school aged children

**Thursday 8 December** – SSG for Butterflies (4-year-old program)

**Tuesday 6 December** – Caterpillar Program final day for 2022

**Friday 9 December** – Butterfly Program Graduation and final day

**Tuesday 13 December** – Statewide Orientation Day – Year 6 students attend Secondary School

**Tuesday 13 December** – Graduation for Students going to Secondary School

**Friday 16 December** – End of year party with Santa!



## Thunderstorm asthma — be prepared this pollen season

Grass pollen season, which runs from October to December each year, brings an increase in asthma and hay fever symptoms. It also increases the risk of thunderstorm asthma. For people with asthma or hay fever, especially those who experience wheezing or coughing with their hay fever, thunderstorm asthma can be sudden, serious and even life threatening.

Furlong Park School for Deaf Children will implement a range of measures to keep our school community safe when the risk of thunderstorm asthma increases.

Many of our staff are trained in asthma first aid, and we will monitor the VicEmergency app to receive thunderstorm warnings, and, where appropriate, keep students indoors when weather forecasts identify greater level of risk.

### HOW YOU CAN PREPARE

During pollen season, there are some things you can do to prepare and protect yourself and your family:

- If your child has ever had asthma: talk to your doctor about what you can do to help protect your child from the risk of thunderstorm asthma, including updating your asthma action plan. Taking an asthma preventer properly and regularly is key to preventing asthma, including thunderstorm asthma.
- If your child has hay fever: see your pharmacist or doctor for a hay fever treatment plan and check if you should have an asthma reliever puffer. These are available from a pharmacy without a prescription.
- If your child has hay fever and experiences wheezing and coughing: it is important to make sure they don't also have asthma. Speak to your doctor about an asthma action plan.
- Where possible, avoid being outside during thunderstorms from October to December, especially during the wind gusts that come before the storm. Go inside and close your doors and windows. If you have your air conditioning on, turn it to 'recirculate'.

Protect yourself this pollen season – managing asthma and allergies matters.

### REMAIN VIGILANT FOR COVID-19

It is important for students to manage any hay fever or asthma symptoms, as these conditions can produce symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, and loss or change to sense of smell or taste, which are similar to COVID-19 symptoms.

If your child experiences these symptoms in different or worse ways to their usual hay fever or asthma symptoms, medical advice should be sought.

### FIND OUT MORE

For more information, visit your general practitioner (GP) or visit the Better Health Channel





School success starts  
with attendance

## Everyday counts!

Help your child succeed in school: build the habit of good attendance  
early school success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten or Early Education Program, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important.

Good attendance will help children do well in high school, tertiary education and at work

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots
- Don't let your child stay home unless they are truly sick
- Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, or other parents for advice on how to make them feel comfortable and excited about learning
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour, or another parent
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session

*Adapted from Attendance Works*



**Furlong Park School for Deaf Children,  
Musica Viva In Schools  
& The Marian and EH Flack Trust  
PRESENTS;**

# **MUSIC & Masterpieces**

**A celebration of  
music & art**

**Thursday November 17, 2022**

**Art Gallery opens at 6.30pm  
Concert begins at 7.00pm**

**Sunshine Secondary College  
Northumberland Rd Sunshine**