



# Longwood Primary School

**1-21 Hurley Street  
Longwood 3665**

[www.longwoodps.vic.edu.au](http://www.longwoodps.vic.edu.au)

Ph: 03 57 98 5386

School commences at 9.00am and concludes at 3.30pm.

Morning recess is from 11.00-11.30am. Lunch is from 1.30-2.15pm.

NEWSLETTER 1/24

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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### For your information – Term dates 2024

Term 1 30<sup>th</sup> January – 28<sup>th</sup> March

Term 2 15<sup>th</sup> April – 28<sup>th</sup> June

Term 3 15<sup>th</sup> July – 20<sup>th</sup> September

Term 4 7<sup>th</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> December

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5 <sup>th</sup> Library	6 <sup>th</sup> Japanese Drama PE	7 <sup>th</sup> No Preps	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup> Parent Information Session 5.00pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup> Art Japanese PE	14 <sup>th</sup> No Preps Breakfast Club 8.30am	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>

## Upcoming Events

The following events are planned subject, of course, to Covid restrictions.

- 9<sup>th</sup> February – Parents & Carers Information & meet the Staff Session 3.30pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> February – Yr 6 Leadership excursion
- 21<sup>st</sup> February – School Council Meeting – 6.00pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> March – Labour Day public holiday

**Welcome back to the new school year** – We hope that everyone enjoyed some special family time and managed to get at least some time to recharge their batteries over the summer break. It was wonderful to see happy, excited faces when our students arrived last Wednesday and Thursday morning. We look forward to another great year of learning and social connection at Longwood Primary. The new school year certainly got off to a positive start with lots of enthusiasm and positive attitudes emerging in the classrooms and our prep students easily settling into school life, as have our other new students.

A few reminders ...

- Home reading - all students have received a home reading folder. This is to be filled out whenever your child reads at home.  
We remind you that 4-5 nights of reading a week is highly advised. Try to make each session approximately 10 minutes. Use the back of the reading folder for a list of good hints and tips.
- Could we also ask that you take the time to label all your child's clothing, drink bottles, lunch boxes and anything else that comes to school this will help us distribute any lost property.
- As always, if you ever have any problems, concerns, questions or queries, drop in or call us - we are here to help!
- Foundation students are not required at school on Wednesday for the month of February.

## FOR ALL PARENTS AND CARERS: INFORMATION Evening

Everything you need to know  
about Longwood Primary School in  
2024!

Attendance is required to ensure  
everyone benefits from the same  
information.

**Friday 9th of February at  
5pm**

Attend in person or online!

*Our School, Our Community.*



**Parent Payment** – School Council has set the voluntary parent payment at \$250.00 per student for 2024. This payment covers the cost of all materials and books that students use at school. Payment can be made in cash/cheque to the office or by direct deposit to our bank account – 063-682 10025842. This amount can be paid in full or by instalment.

**Breakfast Club** – Breakfast Club will commence on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 8.30am, and will be held each Wednesday of the term. This is a great opportunity for our students to come together before school to share breakfast in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Students can partake in cereals, fruit, toast, eggs, spaghetti/baked beans, just to name a few of the dishes on offer. Any offers of assistance to help with cooking and washing up afterwards would be appreciated.

**School Council Meeting** – the 1<sup>st</sup> School council meeting for the year will be held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 6.00pm at Longwood Primary School.

**Uniform Price List** – School shirts \$20.00 and Hoodies \$25.00. Payment can be made via direct debit to our bank – Longwood Primary School Official Account – 063 682 1002 5842.

**Camps, Excursions & Sports funding for 2024** – **New families** holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply for CES funding. \$150 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. This money is used specifically to cover expenditure on camps, excursions and sporting activities throughout the year. Application forms are available from the school office. Please return these applications asap to ensure you receive your entitlement. Please also provide a copy of your concession card. If you received CSEF funding last year your application is automatically rolled over for this year.

**Conveyance Allowance** - Students may be eligible for a conveyance allowance when they:

- reside 4.8km or more from their nearest school/campus attended and there is no school bus service provided

If you think you may qualify for this travel allowance please call into the office on a Monday to pick up an application form.

**School Council Elections** – Nominations for 2024 School council elections will be called for in the next few weeks. To be a part of the council you don't need any particular qualifications or experience – schools look for enthusiastic parents who want to help improve the learning outcomes for all students. Effective councils have a broad range of experience, skills and expertise. Face-to-face and online training is also available to help councillors develop the skills and knowledge for the job. Parents find their involvement satisfying and may find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging, so please consider putting your hand up to fill one of these vacancies.

**Book club** - The latest Book Club forms, with an order coupon on the back page, have been sent home today. Simply select any books you would like and return the order and money by the closing date or place your order online. The current issue is due back at school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February. There are often great buys to be found and of course, books are ideal presents for those special occasions.

**Personal property/goods at own risk** - Personal property or goods brought to school are at the owners own risk. The Department of Education does not have an insurance policy covering these items and does not accept responsibility for anything that may happen to them. My advice is not to bring or allow anything of personal value to come to school.





**It's 1<sup>st</sup> week back and we are fired up ready to get back into learning after the holidays!**



**Student accident insurance arrangements** -The Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs involved. Student accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare. They can be obtained by parents for individual students.

**Bushfire At Risk School - Reminder** – Because we are **BARR** (a school listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register) school we remind parents of what will happen if a bushfire did occur in our area

### **School procedures for the bushfire season**

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and SMS message. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.



**Grade 6 students being presented with their special Gr 6 shirt.**

**General Reminder** - Food allergies are becoming increasingly common among children. We wish to advise we currently have student/s in your child's classroom who have severe allergy to nuts and/or other allergens - any exposure to these items, even a tiny amount, could be potentially very serious and life threatening for these children.

We ask our students and families to help make the school environment safer for all students, by following these simple suggestions:

- Please, where possible, try and avoid sending any foods that contain nuts, such as peanut butter or nutella sandwiches, muesli or health bars with nuts, to school with your child.
- Please always contact the Classroom Teacher *before* sending any food for sharing with the class for special celebrations like birthdays, Easter or Christmas.
- Please remind your child never to share his/her food and drinks with other students.
- Please wash your child's face and hands thoroughly before they leave home, especially if your child has eaten nuts/allergens prior to coming to school.
- Please remind your child often to wash their hands before and after eating.

We greatly appreciate your support for children with food allergies. Together we can make a difference.

Thank you for helping to support our school community.

**Annual privacy reminder** - Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website [www.longwoodps.vic.edu.au](http://www.longwoodps.vic.edu.au). For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#).

**Parents Club** – Unfortunately our Parents Club has been inoperative for the last few years. With an increase in families at the school we are looking to getting it up and running again. Parents' clubs promote the welfare of, and provide support to, the school and its community. Parents are key partners in their child's learning. By interacting with the school and other parents, parents' club members can use their skills and experience to work collaboratively with others in supporting the school and its students, and build a sense of community within the school.

The role of a parents' club is threefold:

- to provide support, in various forms, for the school, its students and community, including raising funds for the benefit of the school
- to work in cooperation with the principal, staff and school council in building effective partnerships between home and school
- to encourage diversity by getting to know the parents of other children at the school, and to support the operation of the school

If you are interested in being involved in Parents Club please let your child's teacher know, thank you.



**The Longwood Wine, Beer and Cider Festival** will be held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February at the Longwood Recreation centre commencing at 2.00pm until 8.00pm. This is a market-style outdoor event that showcases local and regional craft beer, local wine and ciders, served by the producer. Plus quality food vendors from the area, live music and children's activities. Proceeds from the Festival go to the Longwood Football Netball Club, plus benefits other local community groups and business. **Tickets are on sale** via their ticket links for \$25 presale. Tickets are available at the gate for \$30. **Under 18s are FREE!** We encourage all ages to come along. We will be catering for the young ones also. As this is a licensed event, Under 18's must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times and will not be served at our bars - ID will be checked.