



*A Rich Past,
Present & Future*

NEWSLETTER

Friday 7th February, 2025

Term 1: Week 2



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 11th February

Meet the Teacher

Appointments 3:30-8:00pm

Wednesday 12th February

Prep Testing

Friday 14th February

School Captain and JSC
Speeches

Monday 17th February

School Council Meeting

Wednesday 19th February

Prep Testing

Wednesday 19th February

School Picnic

Friday 28th February

PHPS School's Clean Up Day

Monday 10th March

Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 11th March

Curriculum Day

12th— 24th March

NAPLAN Testing

Year 3 & 5 Students

Monday 17th March

School Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th March

District Swimming

Principal's Report

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What a great start we've had to our school year here at PHPS. There was a real buzz on Wednesday as our 2025 students arrived and reconnected with their peers, full of stories of holiday adventures. It has been a particularly big couple of weeks for our newest PHPS students, the Preps. They have settled in beautifully and are already developing great work habits.

It has also been the first week at PHPS for three new staff members. Welcome to Matt Dunstone who is helping out this term as our Assistant Principal.

Welcome also to Danah McMillan (or Miss Mac) who is teaching our Grade 2/3's this year.

We would also like to welcome Bethany Anderson who has started with us in an Education Support role, working as a teacher aide. It is great to have you all join our PHPS team.

WELCOMING MR DUNSTONE

OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR TERM 1

Hello again to everyone in the Panton Hill PS community!

It has been amazing to meet so many of you over the past week and a half. I am very excited to be working here at PHPS for this term and have been so impressed with the friendly culture you all contribute to here at our school.

I have quickly adjusted to the differences that exist between a school that is under 5 years old with over 800 students to our school here with such a rich history. Miss Shae has left big shoes to fill but I am looking forward to supporting our students, families, staff and community members during my time here. As my XUNO post explained, I have been a primary school teacher and educational leader for many years, working at a number of different schools, most recently at Edgars Creek PS as Assistant Principal.

I look forward to talking to you soon, if we haven't met already.



585 Main Rd. Panton Hill – Ph: 9719 7202
www.pantonhill.vic.edu.au

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS

It was lovely to hear the sound of instrumental lessons and see some of our kids wandering off to their music lessons, guitar in hand today—the first day of instrumental lessons for the year. Whittlesea Music are once again offering instrumental lessons for any students interested. If you are keen to learn an instrument, be sure to reach out via the website.

MEET THE TEACHER APPOINTMENTS

At the start of each year we schedule Parent Teacher Meetings for parents to discuss and exchange information with the teachers. We will be having these interviews on **Tuesday 11th February** after school - starting at 3:30pm. They will be of ten minutes duration and are a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher. Bookings can be made through XUNO. Please contact the School Office if you need any support with this.

SCHOOL PICNIC—SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual School Picnic will be held on **Wednesday 19th February from 5:00—7:00pm**. This is a fantastic opportunity for everyone in our school community to meet together early in the year! This is a very informal event, giving us all the opportunity to get together and enjoy a fun evening. The staff will run some fun races for the students (and parents) so be sure to have your running shoes on.

The picnic will be held down on the grassy area behind the Senior Building where there is plenty of afternoon shade. The picnic will start at 5pm and we usually wrap it up after the races, no later than 7pm as it is a school night.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

IMPORTANT FORMS

Just a reminder that we have some important documents which require parent/guardian permission. These forms are all on Xuno. Thanks to those families who have already completed them.

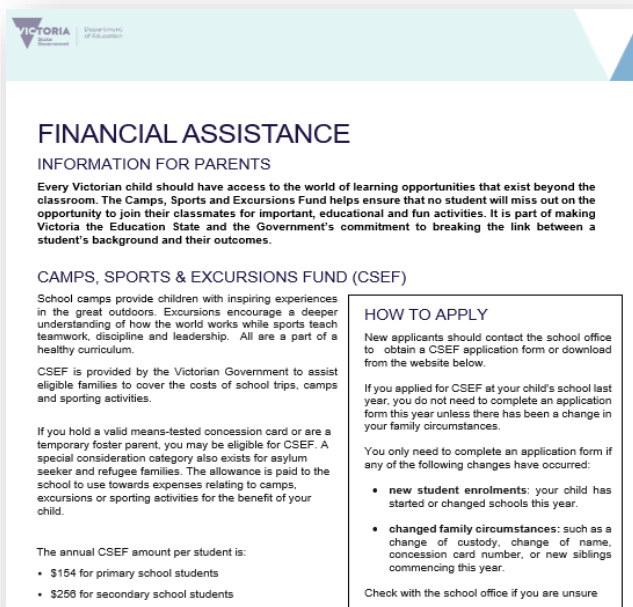
- Local excursions—eg: Bunjil Reserve, Library Bus, Hall etc.
- Head lice forms
- Permission to administer Stingos
- Photo permission

CSEF (CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND)

CSEF is government funding provided to parents who currently hold a valid means-tested concession card. The funding can be used for camps and excursions throughout your child's government primary and secondary schooling. Families who are currently receiving CSEF do not need to apply again as applications will be automatically rolled over. If your financial circumstances have changed or you have not applied for CSEF before, please see the office to complete a form for submission. <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/resources>

SCHOLASTIC BOOKCLUB ORDERS

Once a term we will send home a Scholastic Book Club order form. All books need to be ordered and paid for online. The books will be received 1 week after the close off ordering date and delivered to some very excited children at school.



VICTORIA Department of Education

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:

- \$154 for primary school students
- \$256 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

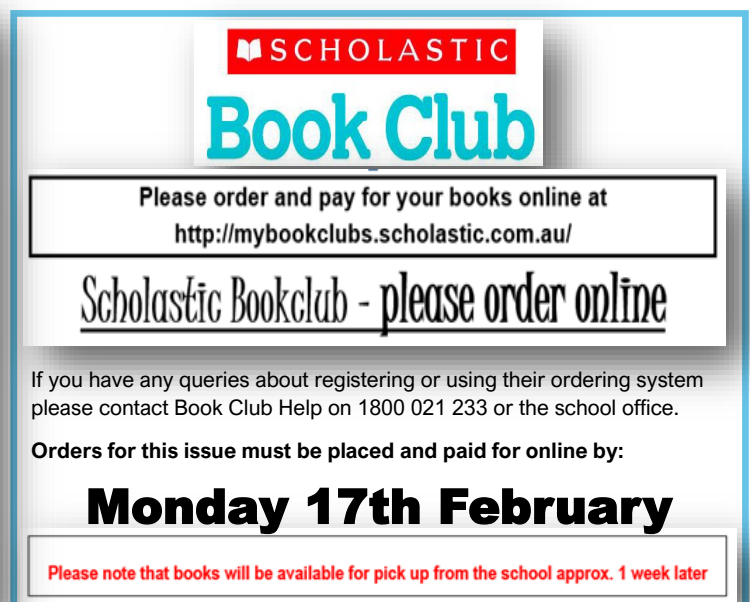
New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

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



SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

Please order and pay for your books online at
<http://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/>

Scholastic Bookclub - please order online

If you have any queries about registering or using their ordering system please contact Book Club Help on 1800 021 233 or the school office.

Orders for this issue must be placed and paid for online by:

Monday 17th February

Please note that books will be available for pick up from the school approx. 1 week later

Statement of Commitment PHPS is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.

SCHOOL SAVINGS BONUS

The SSB has been received and allocated to families accounts. This will sit as a credit on your statement and will be allocated to opt-in event costs or uniform purchases throughout the year. For our Grade 3 to 6 students who are attending camp, an option has been given in the event to give permission for the SSB to be allocated to the cost of camp. Once applied, a balance will be shown on the event. Please revisit the camp event at the end of next week to make payment of the camp balance.

ART SMOCKS

A special request from Mrs Howard in the art room. If you haven't already supplied an art smock—or if the existing one is too small, could you please send one along for those delightfully messy art lessons!

There is no need for a commercial art smock, an old shirt with the sleeves rolled up or cut to size are absolutely fine.

TISSUES PLEASE

We would greatly appreciate boxes of tissues that could be donated. Please pass on a box or two to your child's grade if possible. Thank you to the Gyngell family for supplying a box already.

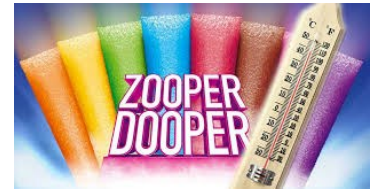


ZOOPER DOOPER DRIVE

What a perfect day for our first Zooper Dooper Drive for 2025 on Tuesday!

When the Panton Hill CFA were onsite filling up our water tank last week, we noticed that one of their hoses had sprung a leak. They explained that it costs about \$100 dollars for that hose to be fixed so we thought we would help our local CFA by raising some money to donate towards the repair of this hose. ***Congratulations to everyone for raising \$135 on Tuesday and helping our CFA!***

Well done also to Mr Hurst and the senior students who ran a well oiled operation when preparing and selling the Zooper Doopers at lunch time on the day. Thank you also to the Natoli family for their donation of Zooper Doopers.



FAMILY DETAILS

We will be emailing out a copy to parents/guardians of the Student Enrolment Information Form for each student. This document contains all of the contact details and important information we require for our students and it is important that each year it has been thoroughly checked and updated if necessary.

One of the important parts of this document is the emergency contact list. This is a list of people, other than the primary/alternate family (already listed on the form) who you would like the school to contact should there be a situation where there is an emergency and we cannot get in contact with either of the primary/alternate adults.

We will always attempt to contact the primary/alternate adults first in an emergency before calling the emergency contacts. Please note that these emergency contacts are the only people who are authorised (other than parents) to pick up students from school. If you have alternate arrangements for pick up it is important that you please contact us and notify us of who will be picking your child/ren up.

If there are any alterations required to your form please let us know by either calling us at the office, amending them in Xuno or emailing us on panton.hill.ps@education.vic.gov.au and we will make the amendments.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Next week we will call for nominations for staff and parent representatives on our **2025 School Council**. We have two staff positions and four parent positions free. School Council will be meeting on **Monday 17th February**, which will be the final meeting of the 2024 council. The 2025 School Council will meet for the first time on **Monday the 17th March** at which stage we will elect members to positions.

CHESS CLUB

Chess Club will be starting again next week on Monday and Friday during lunch. All students are welcome and any parents with free time to assist would be greatly appreciated. Please provide your WWC to the office prior to helping.




Value Award Winners

Congratulations to:

Kindness
Gunner Preece, Riv. C, Jimmy, Otto, Levi,
Edward, Jaí and Xavier



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PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

PHPS picnic

WEDNESDAY 19TH FEB 5PM

PLEASE JOIN US ON THE SCHOOL OVAL FOR OUR ANNUAL PICNIC. BRING A RUG, SOME FOOD AND DON'T FORGET YOUR RUNNING SHOES, FOR THE EAGERLY ANTICIPATED RUNNING RACES.





WHITTLESEA MUSIC SCHOOL

EST. 2006



HOW TO ENROL

Go to our website:
www.whittleseamusic.com/enrolment/

Complete the online enrolment form, ensuring you choose the correct campus, preferred lesson duration and preference of instrument.

We will then be in touch between 12-5 Monday to Friday with enrolment confirmation and to chat about your child/children's needs.



WWW.WHITTLESEAMUSIC.COM
Contact on 0439 913 302



WWW.BLUELIGHT.ORG.AU



PROUDLY RUN BY LOCAL POLICE & VOLUNTEERS

DIAMOND CREEK BLUE LIGHT DISCO

14th FEB 2025
7-9.30 PM | 8 to 13 YEAR OLDS | \$8 ENTRY

Diamond Creek Community Centre
28 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek

Contact: Snr Sergeant Wayne Spence 9438 8300
 Please ensure children have an emergency number on them.

DIAMOND CREEK BLUE LIGHT DISCO | Diamond Creek Blue Light Disco

TERM 1 2025 **FUN • RELAXED • LOCAL • SOCIAL**

FITNESS IN Panton Hill

STARTING 3 FEB

MON	7PM	Strength Pilates
TUE	6.30PM	Boxing
WED	7PM	Cardio Pilates
THU	7PM	Strength Pilates

STARTING 18 FEB (PENDING SIGN UPS)

TUE	6-7.30AM	Strength Circuit
THU	9:15AM	Family Friendly
FRI	6-7.30AM	Cardio Circuit

PILATES, BOXING, CARDIO, FAMILY FRIENDLY

PANTON HILL COMMUNITY HALL
 580 Kangaroo Ground-St Andrews Rd

BOOKINGS & INFO
hforhealth.com.au/pantonhill




AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR





Is this your daughter?

Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform.

Join us at our FEBRUARY OPEN DAY



AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS






VACCA
 Connected by culture

START YOUR FOSTER CARE JOURNEY TODAY

Have you been thinking about becoming a Foster Carer?
 Are you able to provide Aboriginal children with a positive and nurturing family life?
 Are you excited to support a child's cultural and emotional needs?

VACCA is seeking carers who are open to a journey that is both challenging and rewarding.
 If you've ever considered becoming a foster carer, now is the time to start your foster care journey.



Visit our website to find out more: www.vacca.org

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