

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

September 2023

Term 3 has FLOWN BY! I've been so proud of all of the fabulous learning and achievements this term!

Gymnastics

The students have had such a great term of learning all things Gymnastics! Tamila is a wonderful instructor full of enthusiasm and as such, all of the students have made amazing progress!



Nightly Reading

Well done to everyone who has kept up their nightly reading routines! Many students have reached impressive reading millstones so far this year —Please keep reading in the holidays and remember to sign reading diaries.

Kinder Visit

The Casterton kinder had a great visit to our school on Tuesday. A big thanks to Jai and Damien for bringing some of their pet animals up to school for the students.



Tennis Lessons

I've had success in booking in for private coaching in Hamilton! More information to follow but I'll be trying to get at least 3 or 4 sessions booked in for the students—some of their backhands are already looking pretty good!

Remembrance Day

This year, Remembrance Day falls on a Saturday. The students will be practising poems. It would be great if students were able to be dropped at Merino Cenotaph for the service.

Referendum Bake Sale

Referendum voting will be held here at school. I'm looking for volunteers to host the BBQ from 10am—12:00pm. If anyone is able to donate a slice to sell on the day that would be appreciated.

Term 4 Camp

We are hard at work planning and organising camp. Payments will be due the week prior to departure. I'll send out more information early in Term 4 with updated information regarding interlay etc.

A 'heads up' that Monday the 6th is flagged as a 'rest day' for the students (if they need) after a 6 day camp. Any questions at all please drop into school and see me.

Christmas Raffle

We will once again run a raffle to be drawn at our End of Year Art Show and Awards evening.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to drop in or call for a chat :)

September

13th—Parent Breakfast

15th—Last day of Term

2:30 Early dismissal

October

2nd— Term 4 Returns

14th Referendum BBQ and Bake Sale

29th—School Camp Departs

November

3rd School Camp Returns

7th Melbourne Cup Pupil Free Day

December

7th—End of Year Art Show, Speeches and Awards

14th—Last Day of Term 4 for Merino Students

15th—Parent/teacher Interviews

18th—2023 Archiving

19th & 20th—2024 Planning Day

A reminder that no Kitchen classes run during the 1st and last weeks of term—please supply students lunches





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One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

What you need to know

1. If a child is unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms, they must stay at home

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school/early childhood education and care (ECEC) as soon as possible.

2. If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

For further advice:

- call the 24-hour coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline 1800 675 398
- call a general practitioner
- use the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [online self-assessment tool](#).

Visit: [Where to get tested](#).

3. A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) they must isolate until they receive clearance from the Department of Health and Human Services. Read the [What to do if you've tested positive for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) factsheet](#) (PDF) for more information.

If a person is a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) the Department of Health and Human Services will get in contact to tell them they are a close contact of a person who is confirmed to have coronavirus (COVID-19). A close contact must quarantine at home. Read the [What to do if you have been in close contact with someone with coronavirus \(COVID-19\) factsheet](#) (Word) for more information.

For information on the minimum periods students and children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the [DHHS school exclusion table](#).

4. Children do NOT need a medical certificate before returning to school/ECEC

Once symptoms have cleared, there is no requirement from the Department of Education and Training or DHHS for children/students to have a medical certificate before they return to school/ECEC.

Thank you for your support in following these steps, together we can all stay safe.

