



Woody Yaloak Primary School

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Principal: Corey Pohlner
 Phone: 5342 8565

- 2021 Term Dates
- 28th Jan - 1st Apr
 - 19th Apr - 25th Jun
 - 12th Jul - 17th Sep
 - 4th Oct - 17th Dec

Smythesdale Campus 5342 8565
Scarsdale Campus 5342 8514

Snake Valley Campus 5344 9274
Ross Creek Campus 5342 0478

FOR YOUR DIARY 2021

OCTOBER

- Monday 4th
- Foundation - Gr 2 students return to school full time
- Tue 12th & Wed 13th
- Grade 3 & Grade 4 attend school
- Thu 14th & Fri 15th
- Grade 5 & Grade 6 attend school
- Tue 19th & Wed 20th
- Grade 3 & Grade 4 attend school
- Thu 21st & Fri 22nd
- Grade 5 & Grade 6 attend school
- Tuesday 26th
- Grades 3 to 6 return to school full time



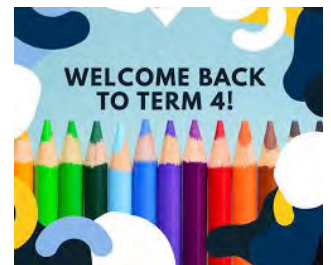
Woody Yaloak Primary School was formed on the lands of the Wadawurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge the First Nations people throughout Victoria.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to everyone for the start of what is going to be another busy term. Although it hasn't been the start we all wanted, at least we now have a clear timeline of when things will start to get back to some normality, after what has been a period of uncertainty for nearly two years.

Being the first week back, we don't have a lot of new information to share, other than what we have already via our 'real time' communication means. For those who haven't kept up to date with our Facebook page, emails and direct contact by your child's classroom teacher via class dojo, I have included the latest information below for your reference.



Again I wanted to highlight the importance of being engaged in our schools communication means, not just for covid related updates, but for celebration items, emergencies and general healthy relationship building between all parties. Without this connection, it is very hard for you to keep up to date with what is happening in the school and also to be well informed during emergencies such as a bushfire.

I did want to highlight one specific area within the current guidelines, in a little more detail. Under the current conditions we are unable to have camps and excursions, which is again unfortunate for our students and staff, especially our grade 6's in their last year of primary school. In regards to our grade 3/4 camp, even though the actual date is when all students are back onsite, the timing is the issue, as we don't know what the guidelines will be then. For our teachers organising this camp, they also need to work with the organisations guidelines and sometimes they don't align with the education departments. An example of this is that the last time camps and excursions were able to happen, only one school at a time could use a venue. The venue for the grade 3/4 camp this term actually has two schools at the same time booked, which we are assuming won't be allowed by the education department.

I hope this gives some context to how hard it is for us to manage all the different elements of the current environment. As a school we will continue to try and work within the guidelines until the end of the year, to provide opportunities for our students to re connect and have some fun with each other.

It is normal for all of us to be annoyed, upset and disappointed, but my hope is that everyone tries to find something to learn from and grow as a person from the experiences of the past two years. If we carry these negative emotions and behaviours through the days and months ahead, we will create some habits that will be hard to break, which is no good for ourselves and others around us.

I can assure you that our staff at Woody PS have modelled this 'growth' very well over the past two years and I am very proud of everyone. As a collective group, which includes parents/carers, we have been able to be agile and adapt to everything that has been thrown at us and come out the other side stronger and more united. As a school we have used these experiences to fast track a lot of the work that we had planned, but in half the time and as a result we are more efficient and connected within our teams. Although it is hard to see this work now, over the next two years our students will reap the benefits of the hard work our staff have put in.

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PRINCIPALS MESSGAE Cont....

Imagine in around two year's time when all of this has past, as a school we will have upgraded buildings and grounds over our 4 sites, a new school uniform, a updated website and also a new direction through a five year strategic plan. If I was a staff member, a student or a parent with these things on the horizon, I would be excited for the things to come.

OVERVIEW OF UPDATES

Everyone has already been given the proposed return to school for each year level, this update is really to share anything new or remind you of the guidelines that have been in place, many times before. Below is a simple visual to help with the timeline.

Year Level	From 4 Oct 2021	From 6 Oct 2021	From 11 Oct 2021	From 26 Oct 2021
Prep	✓	✓	✓	✓
Years 1 - 2	✓	✓	✓	✓
Years 3-4			Tuesday - Wednesday	✓
Years 5-6			Thursday - Friday	✓
Year 7			✓	✓
Year 8-9			Tuesday - Wednesday	✓
Year 10			Thursday - Friday	✓
Year 11		✓	✓	✓
Year 12 (VCE Units 3/4 and final VCAL and IB)	✓	✓	✓	✓

Find out more at coronavirus.vic.gov.au

VICTORIA'S ROADMAP
DELIVERING THE NATIONAL PLAN

COVID SAFE REQUIREMENTS AT SCHOOL

We request all parents to be mindful of coming onsite and only doing so if absolutely necessary at drop off and pick up time. We are still limited to essential visitors only and everyone who comes onto school grounds must comply with density limits, face mask requirements, QR code check-ins and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.

At this stage we request that parents do not enter classrooms or corridors please, and only access the office if necessary. Staff are all available via class dojo, phone and WebEx to discuss any concerns or offer assistance. The density limit of one person per four square metres is applied to any spaces attended by parent/carers and other visitors. The density limit applies to all persons in the space, including students. This means that if parents enter classrooms, we will breach the density requirements.

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PRINCIPALS MESSAGE Cont....

MASK WEARING

Masks are highly recommended for all students when at school. Updated health advice strongly recommends students at primary school wear face masks when at school, or when travelling to and from school on public transport, taxis or ride share vehicles. We will be encouraging all students to wear a mask and supporting them with this at school.



ADDITIONAL CLEANING

Additional Covid safe cleaning has been ordered for all schools for term 4. On this occasion, that's in the form of additional cleaning at the end of each school day, which will include the disinfection of high touch surfaces.

CAMPS

Unfortunately, all camps and excursions are unable to proceed and our planned 3/4 and 5/6 camps will be cancelled. Office staff will be in touch with details about a credit or refund for those who have paid.

SCHOOL HATS

Hats are compulsory for all outdoor activities in Term 4. Given the advice to be outdoors as much as possible to minimise the risk of COVID transmission, it is essential that all students have a uniform hat at school every day. Please contact the office to arrange purchase if a new school hat is required.



REMOTE AND FLEXIBLE LEARNING PROGRAMS

As not all year levels will be back onsite full-time until October 26th (Tuesday) (pending public health advice), remote and flexible learning programs must be in place that ensure a learning program consistent with the guidelines below is delivered during this period to enable continued student learning growth. It is imperative that information about the planned and structured program is communicated to parents/carers. The following are the daily minimum guidelines schools are expected to meet:

For students in Prep to Grade 2, schools will provide learning programs that include the following as a daily minimum:

- Literacy activities of about 45-60 minutes
- Numeracy activities of about 30-45 minutes
- Additional learning areas, play-based learning and physical activity of about 30-45 minutes.

For students in Grades 3 to 6, schools will provide learning programs that include the following, as a daily minimum:

- Literacy: 45-60 minutes
- Numeracy: 30-45 minutes
- Physical activities: 30 minutes
- Additional curriculum areas: 90 minutes

All staff, students and parents/carers should be very familiar now with these requirements.

SCHOOL BUSES

School buses will run as normal for all students. If you require the use of the bus, please have a chat with your child about the highly recommended wearing of masks on the bus.



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

All students are expected to attend onsite as their year levels return to onsite learning, unless they are formally registered as being home-schooled. Parent preference is not an approved absence reason. Staff will continue to mark daily attendance, both onsite and for remote learning.

ONSITE SUPERVISION

For year levels that have not transitioned to being fully onsite, onsite supervision must continue to be available to all students during periods of remote and flexible learning, for students in the categories already shared during previous periods of remote learning. For any students that qualify for under these categories, please submit your forms to school ASAP.

The learning program delivered onsite will be the same as the learning program delivered to students undertaking remote learning. Students attending onsite will be supervised by staff onsite but follow the teaching and learning program provided by their classroom teacher.

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PRINCIPALS MESSAGE Cont...

AUTHORISED WORKER PERMITS FOR ONSITE SUPERVISION

It is our understanding that staff and parents/carers don't need to supply an authorised worker permit, unless they are travelling to our school from metro Melbourne or any other restricted area. Last term we did because Ballarat LGA was a restricted area.

We wish everyone a wonderful start to term 4, and we are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back onsite over the coming weeks.

Regards

Corey Pohlner

Principal

Woody Yaloak Primary School

CAMPUS UPDATES

COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER IS COMING!

The Smythesdale P&F are planning their whole school Cookie Dough fundraiser. **It's really simple to set up an online fundraising account, add your family and friend's orders and add your payment.** There are incentive prizes for the amounts you sell!

Tubs will cost \$17.00 for a 1KG tub and they will be delivered in November. **More information will be in next week's campus newsletters including how to set up your account and start ordering!**

