



Week Ending October 29, 2021

Discovering Doreen

Diary Dates:

TERM 4 DATES

ALL GRADES BACK TO SCHOOL	1 Nov
Cup Day Public Holiday	2 Nov
School Council	11 Nov
Prep 2022 Transition Full Day 9.00-2.20pm	19 Nov
Grades P-4 Swimming TBA	23-26 Nov
Prep 2022 Transition Full Day 9.00-3.20pm	30 Nov
Curriculum Day NEW DATE	6 Dec
Grades P-4 Swimming Cont. TBA	7-10 Dec
Possible BBQ Family Night	13 Dec
Grade 6 Bowling Lunch	15 Dec
Grade 6 Graduation	16 Dec
End of Term 4	17 Dec

PLEASE NOTE:
 All dates are dependent on Covid rulings for Term 4 and are subject to change. We will notify the School Community of any changes as soon as we can

From Glenn

Despite Melbourne's weather fluctuations, we have had lots of smiling faces and happy children running around our school. Staff have a spring in their step and we are all feeling we are at last moving forward. For the Grade One's, Two's, Five's and Sixes, their return has actually started, but for the rest of us Monday 1st November is the big return for all. Yes school is on, but I understand a few may be taking advantage of the option to spend 4 days relaxing on a river or by a beach. We will obviously see you all on Wednesday 3rd November after the Melbourne Cup Holiday on Tuesday. I hope you are seeing what I am in your children. They are smiling, enjoying their work and enjoying seeing each other. We will have a few "teething" problems but we will hit the ground running next week. Specialist classes started this week and the smiles are not only on children's faces. Staff are back to doing what they enjoy and notice lots of smiling faces at drop-off times.

When we tested children after the 2020 Lock down, results were very good, and our NAPLAN results this year were brilliant. The remote learning process we run is overall, quite effective and I expect we will get the same results again this year. Yes we set the work and run the ZOOMS, but you are the ones who make sure our students do their tasks. Remote Learning is not what we want to do and is often incredibly taxing on teachers and students, but parents have had it super hard as well. Running Remote Learning, families, houses as well as a job is extremely taxing and you are to be congratulated for the way you have supported your children, teachers and your school through the last 20 months. **THANK -YOU!**

Next week we go back to our "normal" arrangements for drop-offs and pick-ups. The top car park is for staff, handicapped parking and "during the day" drop offs and pick-ups. Prep parents can go back to using the oval car park and all other grades use the "Kiss and Drop" and the bottom Car Park.

School start time is 9.00am and Grades Prep, One and Two finish at 3.20pm, with 3-6 children finishing at 3.30pm. As always, the Prep-2 children will be walked down to the bottom Car park.

We are asking parents do not leave car parks unless they have arranged a meeting. Grade sixes will be around to walk preps up, but most children are now very confident in walking in. By following guidelines regards only essential adults on site (anyone onsite for long periods is double vaccinated and following COVID Guidelines) our school will hopefully stay free of infection and closures. We have been vigilant and lucky in that we have not had a positive case and we REALLY want to keep it that way. It is still factual to say that infections come into schools and are not the result of a big spreading event among children. Adults infecting children is still the norm for children getting COVID, something we wish to minimize the risk of. I thank you for your co-operation.

We will be as normal as possible next week and we are allowed to run assemblies, but unfortunately not with parents being part of yet. Give us a few weeks and we will be able to do that. We are 99% sure swimming will go ahead for Grades Prep-4 and there is a Grade six Bike Ride being planned. We will have a "School Disco" and all plans are for a Concert/Christmas event in the last week of school. The Grade Six Graduation, Bowling morning and Lunch outing is also on the calendar. As more restrictions are lifted, we are able to do more "normal" things BUT we are always keeping in mind the need for catching children up academically and rebuilding their social networks. Make sure you keep an eye on the Newsletter, uEducateUs and the parent Facebook page for updates.

This sounds ridiculous, as we are just getting back but I am also starting to plan and budget for 2022. I am looking at grade sizes and seeing if we have any places. We have had people moving to other areas and states this year and there are a few places in the upper grades. If you are planning anything, or know of someone looking for a place at our school, could you let me know ASAP please.

ChildFund Australia



Heng Raksa—Cambodia

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TERM DATES 2021:

Term 4

4 Oct—17 Dec

TERM DATES 2022:

Term 1

Students start

31 Jan—8 April

(Teachers start 28 Jan)

Term 2

26 April—24 June

