Diary Dates and upcoming events ....

<table>
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<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>2017 Term Dates:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 14 – Swimming Trials @ La Trobe Pool 9.00am-noon (students from Grades 4 and 5) ($15)</td>
<td>Term 1 : 1 February to 31 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 20 - Three Way Conferences (see attached information on booking your times)</td>
<td>Term 2 : 18 April (Tuesday) to 30 June</td>
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<td>Mon 27 to Fri 3 March – Grade 6 Canberra Camp</td>
<td>Term 3 : 17 July to 22 September</td>
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<td>Term 4 : 9 October to 22 December</td>
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From the Principal....

Welcome to the beginning of the 2017 school year. I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of the new families who started at Preston Primary this year. On Monday we welcomed 115 very eager Preps. They all settled very quickly and within no time reminded me of a group of children who had been at school for months. Our local pre-schools teachers need to be congratulated on how well prepared the children are to start their school journey.

Our Grade 1 to 6 students who returned to school last Wednesday were also happy to be back at school and were excited to catch up with all of their friends. Many of them had lots of stories to share about their holiday adventures.

We also welcomed three new staff members, Jennifer Cora (Grade Prep), Katia Aloia (Grade 1) and Cameron Shaw (Grade 2). We hope that 2017 is a great year for all members of the Preston PS community.

Weather-wise the beginning of the school year has been fairly typical Melbourne weather. Last week when our Grade 1 to 6 students started back it was quite warm however on Monday when our Preps started we had rain. When it is hot we endeavour to keep the children as comfortable as possible. We encourage every child to bring a drink bottle full of cold water to school each day.

The children are permitted to have a drink bottle with a pop-top lid, which must contain water, with them during teaching times to ensure they stay adequately hydrated. Depending on the temperature we vary the amount of time the children spend outside during their break times.

**NEW COLA**

Over the holiday break we had a new COLA built at the Junior School. Every parent who has spoken to me about it has been very impressed. It certainly adds a much needed element to the junior school campus. I have had parents ask me what we are going to call it and I have said the COLA without really thinking.

Maybe many of you wonder why we call buildings unusual names at Preston PS. The Milking Shed got its name from our previous Principal John Nelson. During the construction phase John thought it looked like a milking shed and the name just stuck. So contrary to the rumours, there has never been a cow milked in the building.

Our newest building at the Senior School is called the PAC (Performing Arts Centre) and why COLA - well it stands for Covered Outdoor Learning Area. So we will be calling our new COLA the COLA.

I'm sure our Grade Prep and 1 students will make great use of the COLA on both wet and hot days. The cost of the COLA was paid for by locally raised funds, so thanks to all of the families who have supported our fundraising events over the past few years. We will now have to identify the next project for our fundraising venture.
TWINS, TWINS, TWINS
This year we had six sets of twins start in Grade Prep. I’m sure many of you would have seen the article in the Herald Sun last week however you might have missed us on the news. On Monday we had a news crew here to interview and film our twins and some of their parents. Both Channel 7 and Channel 10 had the story on their main bulletin on Monday night.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN
I’m sure many of you followed the Australian Open over the holiday period and heard about the 17 year old girl from Preston, Jaimee Fourlis, who made it through to the second round of the main draw. I am very proud to say that Jaimee is a former Preston PS student. Jaimee and her sisters Ellie and Chrissie all completed their seven years of primary schooling at Preston PS.

Jaimee has played tennis since she was very young, in fact when she was in Grade 6 she won the Victorian School Sport Award for Tennis. She has worked extremely hard and put in countless hours of training over many years so to see her achieve her dream of making it in to the main draw of a Grand Slam event was thrilling. I’m sure we will see her name in the paper and on the news for years to come.

Congratulations Jaimee - you deserve all the success you achieve!

THANK YOU
Our gardens not only survived but thrived throughout the long holiday break thanks to Kimalee Fernandez. Kimalee came in to the school throughout the break to maintain the garden. We are so very fortunate to have such a dedicated parent who has put in countless hours to cultivate our gardens. Thank you Kimalee!

NEW ENTRANCE
At the end of last year we began the process of updating the laneway entrance on the Jeffery Street side of the School. The entrance is very convenient for many families however it was becoming unsafe due to several trip hazards. We have had new concrete laid and we are currently having the new fence and gates installed. Hopefully by the time you are reading this newsletter the fences will be completed and we will have lovely new entrance.

3 WAY CONFERENCES
This term we will be having 3 Way Conferences on Monday February 20th. This will enable teachers and parents to catch up early in the year to share relevant and important information.

Notes relating to this term’s 3 Way Conferences will be sent home on Thursday.

We have included a copy of the note at the end of this week’s electronic newsletter. The conferences are on Monday February 20th between 1.00pm and 7.30pm. To enable the classroom teacher to meet with all parents the interviews we have to maintain a strict timeline of 15 minutes per interview. If you require more time, please contact your child’s teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents will need to book their appointment time via the internet on the School Interviews website. It is a very simple process, all parents need to do is to log on to www.schoolinterviews.com.au website and follow the links. You will be prompted to enter the event code which is nuc5u. If you have more than one child in the school please ensure that you leave sufficient time between interviews to allow you to get to the second or third appointment.

For parents that don’t have access to the internet please contact the School.

The program will send a copy of the interview information to your email address for future reference. Parents can change their interview bookings, at any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the website www.schoolinterviews.com.au, and using the event code nuc5u and following the links.

We are requesting that children do not attend school on Monday February 20th, however all children must attend their conference as they play a vital role in the process.

SCHOOL FEES
Families will receive an invoice for their child’s 2017 school fees at the end of this week. The school fees for 2017 are $250 which includes everything your child will need for the year. Last year School Council made the decision to not increase the fees for 2017.

Any families who have a Pension or Health Care Card are eligible to apply for the Camps, Sport and Excursion Fund, (CSEF) which you can use to offset the costs of camps and excursions. The school will receive $125 per child, which will be used to pay for any camp, sporting activity or excursion that the child attends throughout the year. Once the $125 has been expended parents will be charged for any further events. The application form will be included with the school fees invoice. We strongly encourage all families who are eligible to apply.
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
We publish a school newsletter that contains school related articles. It is very important that parents read the newsletter as it will keep you informed about what is happening in the school. The newsletter is our main form of communication with parents.

Today you will receive an email link to the newsletter. We will not be providing a hard copy of the newsletter. We have used the email address that you provided us at the time of your child’s enrolment. If you did not receive a newsletter via email please return the form attached to this newsletter to your child’s classroom teacher and you will be added to the email distribution list.

If at any time you would like to read the school newsletter it is published on the school website at www.preston-ps.vic.edu.au.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES
This year we will have an assembly at the Senior School on a fortnightly basis at 3.15 pm on Wednesday afternoon. Parents are welcome to attend.

The Junior School assembly will be held on a fortnightly basis at 9.00am on Mondays, alternate week to the Senior School assembly.

- There will be an assembly at the Senior School next week, Wednesday February 15th at 3.15pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

I hope everyone has a great 2017 and remember if at any time you are unsure or have a concern about anything that is happening don’t hesitate to contact us we are always happy to alleviate parents’ concerns.

Regards,

Janet Paterson,
Principal.

MEDICAL ISSUES
We currently have many students in the school who have medical issues, including Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes etc. It is vital that we have current management plans for every child who has a medical issue. All Anaphylaxis plans need to be signed by a doctor and parents to verify the information is correct and that we have permission to administer an Epipen if we need to. From time to time children’s plans change so it is important that the school is kept updated on any changes. Each staff member has Level 1 First Aid, Asthma, CPR and Anaphylaxis training. A number of staff also have Level 2 First Aid qualifications.

PERSONAL DETAILS
Have you changed your phone number, address, work place or emergency contacts?
If the answer is yes, have you informed the school?

It is essential that we have current details for every student. If we need to contact parents it can be very frustrating when our information is not correct. If you need to update any of your details please ring the school on 9470 1167 or email us at preston.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE
Preston Primary and the DET does not have accident insurance for students and as such if a child is injured at school parents are not covered for any out of pocket expenses including, doctor, hospital or ambulance bills. Parents need to arrange their own insurance.

Parents please be aware that if your child in injured, is having an asthma attack or if we believe they are in any medical emergency, we will always err on the side of caution and call an ambulance. If the ambulance takes the child to hospital parents are responsible for the costs incurred.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS
If children bring expensive items to school including, electronic games, or toys they do so at parents own risk. If there is any damage to them or they are lost or stolen the school does not accept any responsibility. DET does not have insurance to cover teacher or student personal belongings.

Parents please ensure you are aware of what of your child is bringing to school. The school does not recommend children bringing any expensive or treasured items to school.

MOBILE PHONES
We are having an increasing number of students bringing mobile phones to school. While we understand parents who have children who walk to school like them to have the phone in case of emergency, students who are dropped at school and picked up need to bring a mobile phone to school.

If a child brings a mobile phone to school it must be turned off and given to their class teacher when they arrive at school. The teacher will lock the phone away and return it to the child at the end of the school day. Any child found with a mobile phone in their possession during school time will have it confiscated and their parent will have to come in to the school to retrieve it.

The School and the DET take no responsibility for any lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones.
**SUNSMART**

Children need to ensure they come to school each day prepared for the heat of the summer days. They **MUST** bring their hat to school **EVERY** day as we have a “**No Hat no Play**” rule that we enforce in Terms 1 and 4. Students must wear a **school hat**, baseball hats are not permitted.

**PARKING RESTRICTIONS**

All parents need to be aware of the parking restrictions around the school. Cars are not allowed to **park or stop** on the

- West side of Bowden St,
- East side of Ellison St and the
- South side of Shakespeare St
- East side of Foch Street

between 8:30 & 9:30 in the morning and 3:00 & 4:00 in the afternoon.

There are no **parking** spaces in each street surrounding the Junior School and in Foch St to allow parents to stop and **drop off and pick up** their children however, you are **not permitted to stop and get out of your car in those spots or park there**. Parents need to be aware that the restrictions are in place to ensure the streets surrounding the school are safe for all of the people who use them.

Please take careful notice of the parking restrictions as the Parking Officer do patrol the street surrounding the school on a regular basis. They will issue infringement notices to drivers who are not abiding by the road rules.

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<th>Daily Bell Times:</th>
<th>Grade 4, 5 &amp; 6:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Grade Prep, 1, 2 &amp; 3:</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:55am</td>
<td>Line up bell</td>
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<td>9:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:10am</td>
<td>Start bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Begin Recess</td>
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<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Begin Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>Home time</td>
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<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>Home time</td>
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**School Banking …**

School banking will recommence on Tuesday 21 February

**Forwarding Money to School ….**

Whenever you are sending money to school please forward in **an envelope OR zip lock bag** with the students Name and Grade clearly marked on it.

Loose money is very easily lost and hard for the teacher and office to manage when combined with other children’s monies.

**Uniform Shop…..**

The Uniform Shop is open on Friday mornings only from **9.00 am until 9.45 am approx**.

Please note that it is **only open for a short time**, not all day.

Orders can be made on Qkr through the week – up to 4.00 pm on Thursdays – and goods will sent home with your child on Friday afternoon.

**Ukelele Try Outs …………..**

There will be try-outs for Grade 2 and 3 children on Friday, 10 February (this Friday!) with Clare – listen for the announcement!

Forms will be available in the Office from Friday.
Grade 1 Report ....

The Grade Ones have had a busy start to the term.

We have begun Reading and Maths groups and the children are very excited to be using their new pencil cases.

Our grades read and discussed the story of The Rainbow Fish looking at the importance of sharing and friendship.

Each student made their own Rainbow fish to display around our rooms.

Grade 3 Report ....

Great start for Grade 3!

The Grade 3 children have had an incredible start to 2017. They have spent the last week getting to know their new teachers, classmates and learning areas.

On the first morning it was evident that there were lots of mixed emotions about being back at school. One week in and it’s clear that all the Grade 3’s are enthusiastic about the many challenges ahead.

Here is a snapshot of what some of the children are looking forward to throughout the year.

USING THE NEW IPADS
NAPLAN FOR THE FIRST TIME
DODGEBALL & KICKBALL
NEW TEACHERS
NEW FRIENDS
AWESOME EXCURSIONS
Grade 5 Report ....

After a fantastic holiday period we are looking forward to another busy year of learning in our grade and our new groups.

We have a lot of firsts this year and we are excited for them to begin. We will be a part of Interschool Sports for the first time and will be playing against other schools each week. It will also be our first time going to camp and for some of us, it will be the first time we have stayed away from home. We will visit Sovereign Hill and watch the ‘Blood on the Southern Cross’ show. We will also get to take part in lots of fun activities and sleep in cabins with our friends. We are also taking part in the one-to-one iPad program and we are all very eager to begin using them to help us with our learning. Some of us are also in the school band and we will be learning new songs & performing in front of an audience.

So far this year we have been talking about rights and responsibilities and what makes a good learner. We have also been creating our 5AA grade culture, learning about each other, getting to know new friends and catching up with old friends.

2017 will be an exciting and productive year in Grade 5 and we are all looking forward to learning and having fun with our friends.

News from the Physical Education Department ....

Junior School
A big welcome to all of the new Prep students! Today we had a lot of fun playing tag games with our classmates on the Junior School oval, and also learning about the different ways our bodies move when we are dodging, fleeing and chasing. The Prep students will be learning Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS) associated with physical activity during our PE lessons this year. We are looking forward to beginning our Catch lessons next week!

Senior School
The Interschool Sport competition is starting this week for the Grade 5 and 6 students. The summer sports that the students are competing in are: Bat Tennis, Kanga Cricket, Rounders and Tee Ball.

Best of luck to all of the teams who are playing in their first games against the other schools in our district this Friday.
HIGH SCHOOL FOR PRESTON
What kind of high school do you want for Preston?

Last year the Victorian Government committed to open a new co-educational secondary school for Years 7 to 12 students on the site of the former Preston Girls' Secondary College, Cooma Street, Preston.

An online portal has been established so you can have your say on what kind of school you want www.engage.vic.gov.au/PrestonHigh.

Your feedback will be provided to the design team to be considered as part of the new school designs. The online engagement portal will be open from Monday 6 February until Tuesday 28 February.

In addition, a Community Workshop is being held to hear from educational experts, architects and project managers about the Preston High School. There will be presentations and opportunities to ask questions.

Thursday, 16 February 2017 : 6:30 pm – 8 pm
City of Darebin City Hall, 284 Gower Street, Preston 3072

If you have any queries about the Preston High project, please contact:
Victorian School Building Authority : Phone: 1800 896 950 : Email: vsba@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au

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**Before and After School Care Program – Permanent and Casual Bookings / Cancellations –**
**Telephone / SMS - 0407 351 708**
Dear Parents / Guardians,

If there are any changes to your contact details, please fill in the details below and return to school as soon as possible.

Student’s Name ................................................................. Grade ............
New Address .................................................................
................................................................. Email Address: .................................................................
Telephone: Home .......................................................... Mobile .................................................................
Mother’s Work No. .......................................................... Father’s Work No .................................................................
Emergency Contact Name & Phone (other than parents) .................................................................
Parent Signature ................................................................. Date .................................................................

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CHESS Timetable – YES there is CHESS this week !!

Thu 9 February – Chess : Junior 8.00 am Gr 2 Area, Room 47
Thu 9 February – Chess : Intermediate 3.30 pm, Gr 2 Area, Room 47
Fri 10 February – Chess : Advanced 8.00 am, Gr 2 Area, Room 47
(Room 47 is on the second floor of the Senior School, Grade 3 area – next to the room used in 2016)

Information/enrolment flyer attached

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Icy Poles …
Icy poles will start next week, Thursday 16 February 2017.
They are for sale in Term 1 at a cost of .60¢ each.

• Grades Prep and 1 - please send your payment into your child’s teacher by Wednesday in a CLEARLY MARKED envelope with your child’s name. Payment can be made for one week or can be sent in for the remainder of Term 1 (.60c x 7 weeks = $4.20). If your child is not at school on the day unfortunately we cannot offer a refund or “hold icy poles over”.
• Grades 2 to 6 can buy directly over the counter at their lunch times.

If you would like to put your name on the roster please email Kate: katewood@netspace.net.au

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Parent Class Rep Program ....

Would you like to meet more parents at Preston Primary? Would you like to feel part of a community with other parents from your children’s class? Would you like to receive more info about things going on around school?

Then the Parent Class Rep program is for you!

Preston Primary Parent Club is starting up a new Parent Class Rep program. It aims to help create a sense of community, provide a way to pass on useful info about school activities, and help all families feel welcome and able to be involved in school networks and events.

We aim to have a nominated ‘Parent Class Rep’ for each class. The reps will be a central point of contact and help connect parents who wish to participate. Parent Class Rep’s will be supported with templates for class contact lists, privacy requirements, information and ideas about linking parents with the school community.

If you are interested in being a Parent Class Rep, or finding out more, please email PPSparentrep@gmail.com or contact Jenny Ford 0409 266 030

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Before and After School Care Program – Permanent and Casual Bookings / Cancellations –
Telephone / SMS - 0407 351 708

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Dear Parents,

In Term 1 we are having the conferences for all grade levels on Monday February 20th between 1pm and 7.30pm.

The conferences will be a three way process including the teacher, parents and student. The children are an integral part of the conference and as such must attend. These conferences will be to discuss how your child has settled into their new grade this year and ways parents, children and teachers can work together to maximise the child’s learning potential in 2017.

If you are able to keep your child at home for the day we would appreciate it. If you are unable to keep your child at home the school will provide an alternative program between 9am and 3:30pm. Please cut off the slip below and return it to your child’s teacher.

You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST. Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS OPEN**  Wednesday February 8th

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) Enter the school event code nuc5u
Then follow the 3 simple steps.

**BOOKINGS OPEN TODAY-WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8th**

Parents who don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, should contact the school. Interviews are strictly 15 mins. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9470 1157

Please return to your child’s teacher

Child’s Name _______________________

My child will be attending school on the day  Yes  No
Think! Concentrate! Gain Confidence! Have FUN!

Coach: Jim Cannon, PhD (UMelb), Dip Ed (UMelb) Email: jimphd2000@gmail.com

RETURNING STUDENTS: Please do NOT fill in this form unless updating your details

SPECIAL OFFER (TERM 1 ONLY):
PAY FOR THE YEAR AND PAY ONLY $220 (SAVE $20!)

Fees: $60 / child / term. Due: 9/2/17

Payment Options: Please circle payment method used:
1. EFT* (preferred)  2. Cash  3. Chq (to “J.F. Cannon”)

*EFT (JF Cannon, 037-138 56-4211) with name, school and date in description eg “J BROWN PPS T1”

Unless using EFT, this form must be lodged together with your payment in an envelope at the office

Name of Child(ren) 1. ___________________________ in Year P 1 2 3 4 5 6
2. ___________________________ in Year P 1 2 3 4 5 6

Name of parents / guardians 1. __________________ 2. __________________

Signature of parent / guardian ______________________________ Date / /

Phone: Home __________________________ mob __________________________

Email ______________________________

Term enrolling (Please tick ✓)

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NEW STUDENTS ONLY:
Commencement Date (first lesson) / /

*Early Bird points + prizes for getting to class by 7.58am sharp! Early bird medals awarded!