



*We learn. We show respect.
We are safe.*

Thursday 1st February 2024 Week 1

"Golden Past, Bright Futures"

Canterbury Street, Vic. 3370

Telephone (03) 5345 3182

Email: clunes.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Clunes Primary School

Mini Newsletter (first Newsletter for the year)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see **Term 1 Calendar draft #1**- each fortnightly Newsletter will have new events added so please check regularly. Thank you! 😊

Students with Asthma. Please bring your clearly labelled, up to date 2024 Asthma Management Plans to school asap.

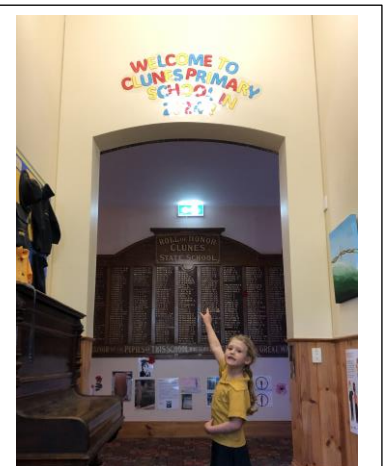
Our 2024 Prep/ Foundation D students have a Rest/ Assessment Day- each Wednesday for the first 7 Weeks (TBC) of Term 1, 2024. Year 1D students will learn with Miss Dargaville until Recess and then 1D and Ms Jardine will join 1 /2MJ for the remainder of the day. Miss Dargaville will confirm the exact end date at the end of Feb. An Assessment schedule has already been forwarded to parents.

Dear Parents/Caregivers, Welcome to Term 1, 2024!

It gives me great pleasure to welcome our new Prep (Foundation Year) (Prep/ 1D) students and their families to Clunes PS!



Lachie – Yr 1D made a computer in craft in the Grey Shed.



Elara – 1MJ pointing to our Welcome sign. 😊



A Prep photos collage will be included in our next week's Newsletter. 😊



***In 2024 we have a student who is anaphylactic to NUTS!**

We will need to be a **NO NUTS school**, as our students mix with and play with each other across the school day. Our junior school Buddies will meet for learning activities with our senior school Buddies. Thank you sincerely for considering the safety of our students as you choose what food is placed in your child's daily snack and lunch box.

There is a Department of Education policy (included in the Newsletter) linked to CODE RED days which directly impacts our school. Please read.

Best wishes to you all for a positive week ahead! There will be a full Newsletter next week.

Kind regards, Sonia & the staff of CPS. 😊



Newsletter article: Schools on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and Schools at Risk of Grassfire (Category 4)

Clunes Primary School is a rated as a School at Risk of Grassfire (Category 4) school by the Department of Education.

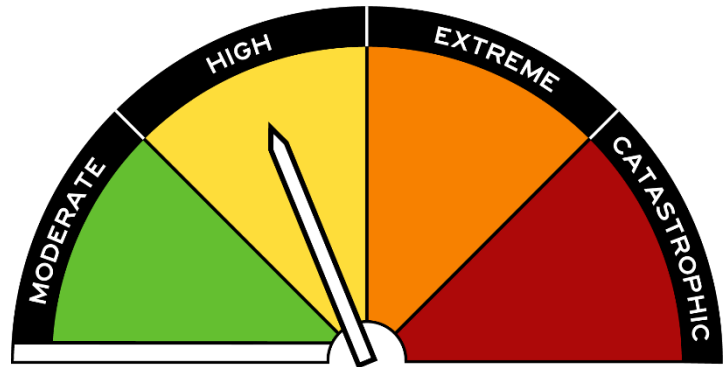
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and **those at risk of grassfire (Category 4)**

will be closed when a Code Red fire

danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire or grassfire risk.



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days' notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and SMS message/phone tree. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00pm on the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- All bus routes that travel through the Code Red area will be cancelled.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our annual Emergency Management Plan, prioritising any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire.

What can parents do?

Clunes Primary School will be closed on Code Red Days.

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your current mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our fortnightly newsletters, by checking our website- www.clunesps.vic.edu.au and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Your privacy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website <https://www.clunesps.vic.edu.au/school-profile/privacy-policy/>. For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#).

SKILL SETS THAT HELP KIDS SUCCEED

1 FEB

BY MICHAEL GROSE

When I was teaching, as I got to know to children at the start of the year, I was always on the lookout for factors others than academic ability. As a number of researchers have found, including Prof. Michael Bernard author of the You Can Do It Program, children need more than a penchant for learning to succeed at school.

There are a number of skill sets that contribute to children's success over the long-term. They are skills that we neglect if we narrow our focus on numeracy, literacy, performing arts and other academic skill sets. They are also skill sets that can be taught, or at the p

Following are six skill sets that contribute massively to overall student success and contentedness at school.

1. Friendship skills

The ability to get along with others is hugely important for children. How quickly children settle into a new school year will be determined as much by their ability to make new friends and fit into a peer group, as any other factor. Those children with a strong set of friendship skills have a definite set of skills that makes them easy to like, easy to relate to and easy to play with. These skills include the ability to win and lose well; how to approach others to join in a group and how to lead rather than boss. These are just three of 17 basic friendship skills that have been identified as being essential for making and keeping friends.

2. Organising skills

You can probably recall when you went to school a student who was really bright, but who let themselves down because they couldn't organise themselves or others. The ability to organise your time, your space, your items and others is a massive plus for any student. Being organised extends beyond school, including at home and during leisure time. The best way to help children who are organisationally-challenged is to introduce them to systems and processes to help them organise themselves. These processes include the use of visual reminders; anchoring (i.e linking new behaviours to habitual behaviours) and mapping activities out.

3. Optimism skills

It may seem strange to see optimism as skill set, but as leading psychologist Prof. Martin Seligman discovered through his research, optimism can be taught. Seligman found that while some children are more inclined by nature to see a glass as half empty than half full, all children are capable of developing an optimistic explanatory style through exposure and direct teaching. The skills of optimism include being aware of self-talk, reframing negative events into positive effects and the practice of perspective-taking.

4. Coping skills

Kids will generally face a number of challenges during the course of their school lives including overcoming disappointment of missing being picked in a team; working their way through difficult learning situations and meeting with rejection. How stressful these situations will depend on their own spirit, the support they receive and their coping skills.

The good news is that coping skills can be taught, or at the very least, encouraged, if adults know what to focus on. Coping strategies include parking problems for a while; normalising a situation and accepting and moving on. Some kids will use coping strategies quite naturally, while others need parental input to help them cope with seemingly minor challenges.

5. Relaxation skills

The ability to relax and get away from it all is vital for the maintenance of mental health, which in turn, impacts on a student's ability to perform. Many of today's kids live with pressure. That pressure needs to be released through relaxation and play, otherwise it just continues to build and it shows itself through anxiety and other mental illnesses. The ability to relax and unwind is paramount to your child's school success. Ways to unwind include getting lost in a hobby; learning how to meditate and enjoying creative pursuits.

6. Relationship skills

Children at school are involved in hundreds of social interactions every day ranging from working cooperatively with a peer in class through to asking a teacher for help. Most of the interactions go well, but there are times when there will be conflict and tension. This is when children with a solid set of communication and relationship skills honed through a myriad of sibling interactions come to the fore. They don't become flummoxed when a child won't give them what they want, or a child tells tales to the teacher about them. Children that come from very small families (two children or less) often don't have experiences of conflict to draw on so they need to be taught how to give way graciously; to stand up for themselves assertively rather than angrily and to see two sides to a story rather than take things personally. There are many skills we can teach our kids to help them maintain healthy relationships at school, as well as in their families.

These skill sets are part developmental and part environmental. That is, kids will naturally develop many skills as they mature. But also, many of the skills need to be nurtured environmentally- that is, they need to be recognised, encouraged, taught and modelled by adults that children and teenagers respect and admire if children are to acquire them. That makes parents Very Important People in the acquisition process of these skill sets in children and young people.



Personal student mobile phone use

In accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) issued by the Minister for Education, personal student mobile phones must not be used at Clunes Primary School during school hours, including school bus travel, lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted.

A **mobile phone** is a telephone with access to a cellular (telecommunication) system, with or without a physical connection to a network. For the purpose of the Clunes Primary School policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches.

POLICY

Clunes Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school or wear a smart watch, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Clunes Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours at the Office.
- Smart watches worn must have network functionality disabled during school hours
- School Bus travel is considered 'school hours' – network functionality turned off.
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see the full CPS Policy)
- When emergencies occur, parents or guardians should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Links to information for parents on DET website:

- [Mobile Phones in Schools](#)
- [FAQs for Parents - Mobile Phones in Schools](#)

HOT LUNCH MEAL DEALS



**Thursday February 1st
Meal Deal \$6
Hot Dog**

**Salad Roll with choice of toppings
(Gluten/Dairy Free Option Available)
Dessert: Juice, Water, Jelly Cup or Fruit Cup**



**Thursday February 8th
Meal Deal \$6**



**Clunes Bakery Pie, Sausage Roll or Veggie Pastie
Salad Roll with choice of toppings
(Gluten/Dairy Free Option Available)
Dessert: Water, Juice, Jelly Cup or Fruit Cup**

**Orders Must be Placed by 9am the Tuesday before delivery.
No Late Orders will be accepted.**

**Order online at www.clunesnh.org/meals
or Scan the QR Code.**



Don't feel like cooking dinner Tuesday night?
Order a community dinner delivered Tuesday afternoon to your home.
check our facebook page for what's on each week.
Orders to be placed Fridays for Tuesday Delivery.



Term 1 Calendar – Draft #1 Thursday 1st February 2024

WEEK 1	Mon	29- Jan	Staff Professional Learning Day Statewide Student Free Day Clunes PS
	Tue	30-Jan	Staff Professional Learning Day Student Free Day Clunes PS Day 2
	Wed	31-Jan	Students first day of Term 1 2024 short whole school Assembly in the Multi-Purpose Hall Prep/ 1 & new parents to Clunes PS- welcome gathering, information & morning tea in the Staff Room Department of Education (DE) Attendance data collection
	Thurs	1-Feb	Mini Newsletter home to families. (Hard copy & electronically)
	Fri	2-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day- From today, each Wednesday for first 7 weeks of Term 1. Final Wednesday date TBC. Draft Assessment schedule has been forwarded to parents
WEEK 2	Mon	6-Feb	Assembly- School Captains Welcome- Induction of School Captains & Vice-Captains (badges presented)
	Tue	7-Feb	Every Tuesday is Walk to school Tuesday. Meet Mr. James & Jan at the Queen's Park playground at 8.30am
	Wed	7-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day
	Thu	8-Feb	First FULL Newsletter home. (Newsletters home each fortnight, sent via email & placed on the school's website) Notice of School Council election
	Fri	9-Feb	The Ballarat Courier- Prep D photo 11am
WEEK 3	Mon	12-Feb	Assembly- Induction of House Captains & House Vice-Captains (badges presented)
	Tues	13-Feb	Student Support Group meetings begin today
	Wed	14-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day (Clunes PS School Performance Review Term 3 2024-DE overview & structure process session) School Council Meeting 7pm (School Finance Meeting 6.30pm)
	Thu	15-Feb	Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm Closing Date for School Council elections
	Fri	16-Feb	
WEEK 4	Mon	19-Feb	Assembly- Induction of Junior School Council (JSC) representatives (badges presented)
	Tues	20-Feb	Proposed Clunes PS – Senior school Swimming Sports- Clunes Pool – approx. 11.30am start 2024 Clunes PS Welcome BBQ & Parent Education activity session
	Wed	21-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day (Clunes PS School Performance Review Term 3 2024-DE induction / information/ planning session)
	Thu	22-Feb	Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm
	Fri	23-Feb	
WEEK 5	Mon	26-Feb	
	Tue	27-Feb	
	Wed	28-Feb	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day
	Thurs	29-Feb	School Council elections - Close of Ballot
	Fri	1-Mar	
WEEK 6	Mon	4-Mar	
	Tue	5-Mar	Emergency Management- fire drill School Council elections- Declaration of School Council Ballot
	Wed	6-Mar	Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day
	Thu	7-Mar	
	Fri	8-Mar	
WEEK 7	SUN	10-Mar	12 th Vintage Truck Show - 1 st Clunes school FUNDRAISER- many helpers required PLEASE see Sonia
	Mon	11-Mar	Labour Day – Public Holiday
	Tues	12-Mar	
	Wed	13-Mar	TBC final Prep/ Foundation students Rest Day/ Assessment Day NAPLAN School Council Meeting AGM
	Thu	14-Mar	NAPLAN Junior School Council Meeting 1.10pm
	Fri	15-Mar	NAPLAN
WEEK 8	Mon	18-Mar	
	Tues	19-Mar	
	Wed	20-Mar	
	Thurs	21-Mar	Proposed Term 1 DISCO – theme decided by our Junior School Council
	Fri	22-Mar	Harmony Day/ Focus Day-mixed groupings across the school & optional dress up theme day
WEEK 9	Mon	25-Mar	
	Tue	26-Mar	
	Wed	27-Mar	
	Thu	28-Mar	Last day of Term 1 2.30pm finish (casual dress day- no gold coin donation. Each last day of Term is casual dress)
	Fri	29-Mar	Good Friday- Friday 29 th March



To be confirmed: Fire Safety lessons 2024 Inter- school Swimming events Other Meetings & events
TERM 2 begins Monday 15th April