



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

Thursday 19th December 2019

"Golden Past, Bright Futures"

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Clunes Primary School Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS



2020

Staff officially begin- Tuesday 28th & Wednesday 29th January, 2020

ALL Students begin- Thursday 30th January, 2020 at 8.45am.

Prep/ Foundation students have a Rest/Assessment Day each Wednesday for the first 6-7 Weeks of Term 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

We sincerely congratulate our Year 6 Graduating Class of 2019!

Best wishes for a successful and happy transition to your secondary settings. ☺

This year please see the back page of this Newsletter for a 'less formal' photo of our gorgeous graduating group! ☺



Thank you Santa and Elf for your visit!

Thank you Clunes PS families for another incredibly successful year!

Wishing you all a happy, prosperous and safe festive season and holiday period.

Kind regards, Sonia & the staff of CPS. ☺



STUDENT OF THE WEEK AWARDS FOR TERM 4



Our Term 4 You Can Do It focus is:
Confidence & Resilience!

Prep B – Oliver, All Preps	1/2B – Isaac, Pepper
2/3LM – Alexander, Blake	3/4L – Tom, Lilly
5/6A – Jatalia, Riley	5/6D – Jayde, Hannah

**Bus Traveller's Awards- Special thanks to our Term 4 Bus Captains- Xaiden-Lee & Benji!
Energy Breakthrough Awards to all participating students!
Special thanks to Quinton & Charlie D our guru Newsletter monitors in 2019!**

Merry Christmas Everyone  Happy & safe holiday period!

Congratulations!



**Cherie Henderson-Drife
with Hon. Catherine King
representative Janet
receiving the
2019 Clunes PS
Community Volunteers Award**

Cherie Henderson-Drife and Ang Day were joint winners of the award this year in recognition of their tireless efforts managing the very successful fundraiser "Tree Drive" for many years. The Tree Drive has become well renowned within the wider Clunes community and far beyond! This year it was our most successful fundraiser.

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

This is our final newsletter for the 2019 school year and we are all very, very proud of our students and the effort they have given throughout what has been an outstanding year for us.

As the very proud Principal of Clunes Primary School for 7 years now, I have relished the opportunity to work closely with all students, staff and school community members with a core focus always in mind- to improve the learning opportunities and outcomes for all of our students.

Opportunities and Success – This year we have continued Professional Development for staff with the focus on improved student learning outcomes focus in Numeracy -delivery and Literacy – Writing right across the school.

DET ‘Equity’ funding facilitated our continued commitment on this very successful teaching and learning journey and focus for students and staff. We also saw a third year of incredibly positive survey and benchmark learning growth data gains; above Region and State means. We will review and then continue to build upon our already very successful Whole School Positive Behaviour Support and You Can Do It systems and processes in 2020. 2020 will see our school introduce the Department of Education Respectful Relationships program with a continued focus targeting building resilience and also managing bullying, ‘bystander behaviours’ and ‘putdowns’ as key areas. 2020 will also see a Department of Education focus on Mobile Phone Use for students in all Government schools. This won’t really affect us any differently, as we have rarely experienced issues in this area. **Please see the attached Mobile Phone- Student Use Clunes Primary School Policy. In Term 2 2020 we will conduct our 4 year Strategic Plan School Review.**

Our Strategic Plan 2017-2020 focused on:

- Strengthening teacher capacity and high quality practice.
- Planning and delivering differentiated curriculum making teaching and learning rigorous, strategic and explicit for every student.
- Providing personalised learning opportunities that purposefully engage and challenge all students with a wellbeing focus.

Our very positive school student, staff and parents survey results and student achievement data has reflected the success we have again experienced this year. Our students have also enthusiastically accessed a range of extra- curricular opportunities offered to them by our dedicated staff and community members. A highlight of this would have to have been the School Musical, Energy Breakthrough, Somers and excursions eg. The Art Gallery of Ballarat, Werribee Zoo and Sovereign Hill. Our ‘Casting Off’ Year 6 Resilience Project was a phenomenal success!

My sincere thanks is extended to all of our staff, our families and our community for your continued support, communication and involvement in our school. I value your contribution, ideas, support and presence in our school and the benefits to our students have been significant. The smiles on the faces of our students say it all!

As the proud Principal of this wonderful school I can’t ask for more! Thank you. Take care, **Sonia**

2018 School Captains

I would sincerely like to thank our **2019 School Captains – Rowan & Olivia** and our **School Vice - Captains – Hamish & Aamekah**, for their strong and engaging leadership throughout the 2019 school year. Thank you for the very fine role models you have been and the effort you have each put into your roles. We wish you all the very best for the future!

2019 School Captains



Our 2020 School Captains are:

Reece Henderson-Drife and Benji Featherston

Our 2020 School Vice-Captains are:

Sienna McLure and Charlie Day

Year 6 Graduation 2019

Every one of our Year 6 students is important to us and has brought something unique to our school. Congratulations to each of you on all of your achievements whilst you have been a student at Clunes Primary School.

Our Year 6 Graduation Dinner was a lovely evening last night (& thankfully considerably cooler than the outside temperature of the past day/ years thanks to our relatively new air conditioning systems) and our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves! Our thanks to the volunteers from our Parents Group and past students, and volunteers for providing table service, and to Mrs Vicki Anderson and Miss Jordyn Dargaville and support team for all of the planning and organisation that ensured the evening was such a success, to our families and friends and to all of our Year 6 students for your brilliant confidence demonstrated in running the evening.

Thanks also is extended to All Nations Masonic Lodge Clunes, Clunes RSL, Kaye & Neil Leckie, All Nations Masonic Lodge Maryborough and our district Bendigo Community Bank for supporting our students with fantastic achievement awards

During the evening the following awards were presented:

Academic Awards- Bendigo Community Bank –

presented by Ian Flynn & Tim Hayes

All Nations Masonic Lodge Clunes Citizenship Awards –

presented by Mr. Malcolm Hull

RSL Incentive Awards –

presented by President Bill Whyte.

Andrea Leckie Memorial Reading Awards-

presented by Mr. Neil Leckie.

All Nations Masonic Lodge Maryborough (special 2019 scholarship for a deserving student attending a Maryborough school in 2020 –

presented by Mr. Malcolm Hull on behalf of the Women's Auxiliary

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 students. All the very best for the future! Enjoy Secondary School and remember that you're always welcome to come back and visit. We will miss every one of you.

Our private Instrumental Music student group during our whole school End of Year Instrumental Music Concert! Well done everyone! Very impressive talent! Thank you Antoinette. See you in 2020



Class/ classroom and teaching structure in 2020

2020 Teaching Staff and Teaching Staff Class/ Specialist Allocations

I am pleased to be able to announce to the school community that our 2020 Teaching Staff and Class/ Specialist allocations are:

Prep B- & Reading Recovery- Mrs B (Di Bongiorno)

1/ 2B – Mr Ash Burke

2/ 3LM- Mrs Cassie Mitchell & Mrs Wendy Laurie

3/ 4L- Mrs Felicity Longmire

5 /6D- Miss Jordyn Dargaville

5/ 6 AT- Mrs Vicki Anderson & Mrs Sarah Tuddenham

Physical Education Teacher P- 6 & Support Teacher (across the School, Extending Mathematical Understanding- EMU, Literacy Support, PE & Magic Maths 3 /4 & Seniors Friday) – Mr. Paul James

Visual Arts Specialist- Mr. Ross Adams

Environmental Education & Kitchen Garden Program Specialist - Mrs. Wendy Laurie

Japanese Specialist teacher- Sensei Kirrily Urquhart

Blu Earth, Respectful Relationships & Values Specialists – integrated into our regular learning programs

Classroom Teachers will remain in their 2019 classrooms. Please see the map below.

Mrs Val McNeight, Mrs Liz Garth & Mrs Jan Miles will fulfil Education Support- Aide Positions for 1 day each in 2020.

Mrs Kristin O'Brien will be our Business Manager Monday- Thursday and Mrs Jan Miles will support the Office on Fridays.

Mr. Michael Lewis will return as our school Chaplain. (Fridays)

Mr Damian Meade will return as our IT Technician role.

Ms Antoinette Dillon will once again be conducting private Instrumental Music lessons at our school in 2020.

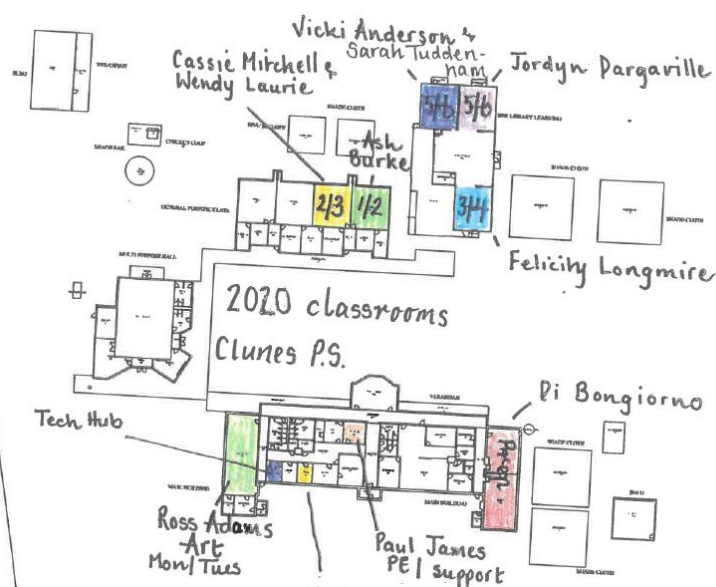
Since the beginning of 2013 our enrolment number has fluctuated by up to 30 students. In an action to continue to retain smaller class sizes across the school and to ensure equity (as much as possible) across the school, we have decided to retain our 2019 class structures across the school.

You can be assured that teacher knowledge, planning, teacher curriculum delivery and assessment and reporting will remain of a very high quality.

Clunes Primary School will undertake a School Review in Term 2 2020.

Please make an appointment to meet with me, with your concern, in writing, should you have any issue about the structure.

Kind regards, Sonia



Christmas Hamper Raffle Winners:

Kate O'Brien, Ian Longmire (donated back into the draw– then the **Roberts family** were drawn out), **Tammie Hayes**.

Thank you all for your donations! 3 incredible Hampers!
Thank you for Ange Flowers for the donated Hocking Stewart Eskys.

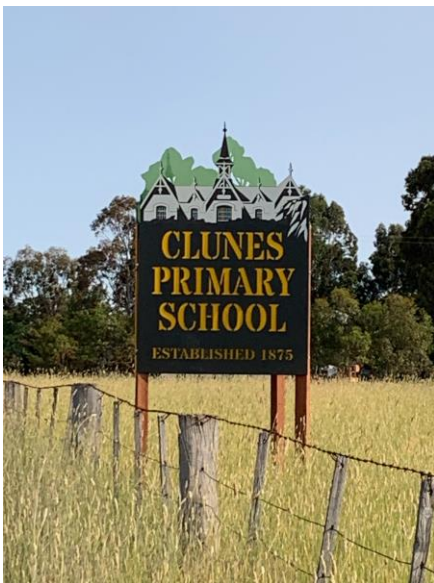


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Our new sign to promote the school as you enter/ exit Clunes on the Ballarat side of the Ballarat – Maryborough Road. Thank you Mr. Ross Adams for your design and to Mr. Steve Kinnersly and family for all of your efforts to realise the design.

Thank you to Mr. Malcolm Hull and family for allowing the sign to be erected on your property, at no cost to the school, and to Malcolm for assisting with its placement.

It is simply stunning! A work of Art! Thank you 😊

Team Sports can be hard work! Over the last week groups of our Year 1- 6 soccer students have tried their best to be competitive, follow our values & be good sports! Thanks for your best efforts boys! Mr. Burke, Mr. James & I enjoy being the Referee!



Mobile Phones- Student Use

POLICY



CLUNES PRIMARY SCHOOL

PURPOSE

To explain to our school community the Department of Education's and Clunes Primary School's policy requirements and expectations relating to students using mobile phones and other personal mobile devices during school hours.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

1. All students at Clunes Primary School and,
2. Students' personal mobile phones and other personal mobile devices brought onto school premises during school hours, including recess and lunchtime.

DEFINITIONS

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 this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches and privately owned tablets.

POLICY

Clunes Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, 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 in the lockable cabinet within their classroom or at the Office.
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met (see below for further information)
- When emergencies occur, parents or guardians should reach their child by calling the school's office.

Personal mobile phone use

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

Where a student has been granted an exception, the student must use their mobile phone for the purpose for which the exception was granted, and in a safe, ethical and responsible manner.

Secure storage

Mobile phones and other such devices owned by students at Clunes Primary School are considered valuable items and are brought to school at the owner's (student's or parent/carer's) risk. Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile phone to school unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Please note that Clunes Primary School does not have accident insurance for accidental property damage or theft. Students and their parents/carers are encouraged to obtain appropriate insurance for valuable items. Refer to Clunes Primary School's Personal Property Policy AND/OR the Department's [Personal Goods policy](#).

Where students bring a mobile phone to school, Clunes Primary School will provide secure storage. Secure storage is storage that cannot be readily accessed by those without permission to do so. At Clunes Primary School students are required to store their phones either in their classroom's lockable cabinet or handed into the Office to be placed in the lockable cabinet/ safe.

Enforcement

Students who use their personal mobile phones inappropriately at Clunes Primary School will be issued with consequences consistent with our school's existing student engagement policies. Eg. *Student Wellbeing and Engagement* and/or *Code of Conduct* or *Bullying* policies.

Staff will instruct the student to hand over the item(s) and if the student refuses to hand over the items, implement the relevant disciplinary provision within the student code of conduct.

At Clunes Primary School inappropriate use of mobile phones is **any use during school hours**, unless an exception has been granted, and particularly use of a mobile phone:

- in any way that disrupts the learning of others
- to send inappropriate, harassing or threatening messages or phone calls
- to engage in inappropriate social media use including cyber bullying
- to capture video or images of people, including students, teachers and members of the school community without their permission
- to capture video or images at any time within the school grounds or on a school excursion or Camp; in the toilets, changing rooms, swimming pool etc.
- during assessments or tests

Exceptions

Exceptions to the policy:

- may be applied during school hours if certain conditions are met, specifically,
 - Health and wellbeing-related exceptions; and
 - Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite.
- can be granted by the Principal, or by the teacher for that class in consultation with the Principal, in accordance with the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#).

The three categories of exceptions allowed under the Department's [Mobile Phones Policy](#) are:

1. Learning-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
For specific learning activities (class-based exception)	Unit of work, learning sequence upon Student Support Group meeting agreement.
For students for whom a reasonable adjustment to a learning program is needed because of a disability or learning difficulty	Individual Learning Plan, Individual Education Plan upon Student Support Group meeting agreement.

2. Health and wellbeing-related exceptions

Specific exception	Documentation
Students with a health condition	Student Health Support Plan upon Student Support Group meeting agreement.

3. Exceptions related to managing risk when students are offsite

Specific exception	Documentation
Travelling to and from excursions, camps and sporting events in private transport	Risk assessment planning documentation and upon agreement of parent, teacher and Principal.
Students on excursions and camps, or at sporting events in pre-arranged private care	Risk assessment planning documentation and upon agreement of parent, teacher and Principal.
When students are offsite (not on school grounds) and unsupervised with parental permission	

Where an exception is granted, the student can only use the mobile phone for the purpose for which it was granted. Where an exemption to use the mobile phone is granted, it should be used only in the school Office under the supervision of a member of staff.

Camps, excursions and extracurricular activities

Clunes Primary School will provide students and their parents and carers with information about items that can or cannot be brought to camps, excursions, special activities and events, including personal mobile phones.

Exclusions

This policy does not apply to:

- Out-of-School-Hours Care (OSHC)/ Family Day care (own arrangements/ Policy)
- Out-of-school-hours events not directly linked to school
- Travelling to and from school (other than by our School Bus)

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Code of Conduct, Personal Property, Bullying etc.
- [Mobile Phones – Department Policy](#)
[Below are optional references to Department policy](#)
- [Ban, Search and Seize Harmful Items](#)
- [Personal Goods – Department policy](#)

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was last updated on 11th December 2019 and is scheduled for review in November 2022.

Swimming Pool

Whilst we understand that the Shire now doesn't require parental supervision for children 10 years of age and older we strongly suggest you support your children in this setting.



Don't get mad, get generous

POSITIVE PARENTING

Christmas in Australia is a full on time of the year. It's busy, intense, hectic, but also fun.

It's very different to a northern hemisphere Christmas, which is a lot slower and laid back. The colder climate over there promotes a slower pace as families tend to spend more time indoors. It also helps that the school year doesn't end at Christmas like it does in Australia, where the festive season becomes a multi-purpose finish line as end of school concerts, work festivities, home improvement projects and other end of year activities all vie for your attention.

It's little wonder most of us feel worn out, even on edge at this time of year. It doesn't help that we live in an age of high consumption, which adds a financial pressure that you can do without.

Here are some ideas to help you focus on what really matters – you and your family. Your kids will benefit too from a slightly different approach.

Develop a sufficiency mindset

Whenever you think that you haven't bought enough presents for someone, remember that most people (kids and adults) have too much stuff already. "That's enough!" is a handy mantra at any time, but particularly appropriate for the festive season. There's a tendency for appreciation to diminish in direct proportion to the amount of gifts received. Sometimes the less they receive the more kids appreciate what they get so set aside any feelings of guilt if you think your (Santa's) present list is a little down this year.

Spend time with people who matter most

There is a big expectation to mingle, gather and party at this time of year, which can make the lead up to Christmas exhausting. Consider politely declining some invitations to Christmas catch-ups (such as drinks with your second cousin whose name you can't even remember) so you can save your best self for the important people in your life, the family and friends with whom share the closest connections.

Balance 'me' time and 'you' time with 'them' time

The holiday season is a great opportunity for families to spend some time together away from the egg timer conditions of work, school and other activities. The opportunity to reconnect is invaluable however that doesn't mean you must spend all the time with the gang. Take time out for yourself and also carve out some space to reconnect with your partner, if applicable.

This may require you to avoid feelings of guilt when kids tell you they are bored. Resist the temptation to fill the activity void with endless adult-organised outings, trips and treats and instead, give them the chance to self-occupy, which is a supreme life skill.

Develop a holiday routine for you and your kids

I've heard many people say that the best thing about holidays is that there's no routine. I'm a little sceptical as most kids just can't cope without a routine at all. Adapt your usual routine to suit your family circumstances during the holidays. For instance, if your children are below school aged (and even those at school), they will benefit from a bedtime routine, albeit a little later than usual, rather than an anything goes approach.

Practise a spirit of generosity

Study after study demonstrates the importance of the development of generosity to personal happiness. Jonathon Rauch author of The Happiness Curve says most eloquently, "Those people who give freely of their time and of themselves have unlocked one of the central keys to lasting human happiness." There are many ways to be generous at the this time of the year – open up your home to that lonely neighbour you haven't seen for a while; encourage children to donate a regular portion of their pocket money to a worthy cause such as The Smith Family; RSPCA Guardian Angel, or – my personal favourite – substitute a real gift in your kids' Christmas stocking with a gift of a chicken, goat or water donated to a village in a developing country through an organisation such as Oxfam. This is a good reminder that we live in a land of plenty and we have plenty to be grateful for.

Christmas and the festive seasons are to be treasured, yet it's easy to become so overwhelmed that we don't experience the joy and sense of renewal that should come our way. Fortunately, it only takes a few tweaks to bring our focus back to what really matters. Enjoy and savour this special time of the year.

Michael Grose

Generosity
changes everything



Year 6, 2019