

# Mill Park Primary School

## Newsletter

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ISSUE 5  
1st Mar 2018

**Our vision is to be a dynamic school, promoting integrity, life long learning and the attainment of excellence**

**Excursion Payments - PLEASE NOTE  
NO PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED  
AFTER THE DUE DATE.**

**Middle Years House Athletics Carnival \$11 due 9th March  
Year 5 Werribee Zoo Excursion \$35 due 9th March  
Prep Breakfast at School \$5 (cash only) due 23rd March  
Year 6 Canberra Camp Balance \$530 due 26th March**

**ENROL FOR 2019 NOW**

### Coming Events

- Mar 2 Year 5 & 6 Interschool Summer Sport**
- Mar 5 Whole School Photos**
- Mar 7 2017 Graduates Afternoon Tea @ 4.00pm**
- Mar 9 Year 5 & 6 Interschool Summer Sport**
- Mar 12 Labour Day Public Holiday**
- Mar 13 Year 5 Werribee Zoo Excursion**
- Mar 15 Middle Years Athletics Carnival**
- Mar 19-23 Cultural Diversity Week**
- Mar 23 Year 5 & 6 Interschool Summer Sport**
- Mar 26 Year 5 Camp Information Night 7.00pm**
- Mar 29 End of Term 1**
- Apr 16 Start of Term 2 at 9.00am**
- Apr 19 Years 1 and 2 Swimming 1#**
- Apr 26 Years 1 and 2 Swimming 2#**
- Apr 30 Year 6 Canberra Camp**
- May 4 Prep Breakfast at School**

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

#### FAMILY PICNIC

It is most pleasing to receive positive feedback about last Friday's Family Picnic. Parents and students have used words like 'wonderful', 'welcoming', 'relaxing' and 'fun'. The Family Picnic was well attended and encouraged the development of a sense of belonging for members of our school community. Thank you for supporting our Family Picnic!



#### SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken next **Monday, 5th March 2018**. Please ensure children come to school in full school uniform, and **not wearing their House t-shirts**. Thank you for your cooperation with this request.

#### CHANGE AND ATTITUDE

Like it or not, change is an essential part of our life. People who accept change generally thrive, while those who complain and fear change may develop negative attitudes towards life and relationships. The process of change begins with us. We all have tremendous potential to achieve our desired goals. But the one thing that may determine the level of that potential is our attitude.

### School Council Meetings in 2018

**20th March\*, 24th April, 22nd May, 19th June, 31st July, 21st August, 18th September, 23rd October, 20th November, 11th December (if required)**

**\*AGM @ 6.30pm**

**Finance & Fundraising; Buildings & Grounds; Education & Policy; Community Building & Relations Committee Meetings - 13th March 2018**

**OSHC - 24th April 2018**

Change is normal, and most of us will experience unpredictable changes in both our personal and professional lives. None of us want to acknowledge that at times we doubt our ability to accept new ideas, use new technology, or adapt to new processes. We don't even want to think about what's ahead – new ways of doing things, new terminology, new beliefs and new behaviours. Fear can have several elements:

- Fear of the unknown: what will happen? How will I deal with it?
- Fear of losing control: what should I do? How will this affect my life?
- Fear of being inadequate: what if let people down? What if I can't cope?
- Fear of moving outside your personal comfort zone: it's worked for me for years, why do I have to change?

Attitude determines how we choose to behave and function in our daily interactions. It decides the size of our dreams and influences our determination when we are faced with new challenges. No other person on earth has the power to choose our attitude. People may affect our attitude by teaching us poor thinking or behaviour habits, or misinforming us or providing us with negative influence – but no one can control our attitude unless we surrender that control.

No one else 'makes us angry'. We make ourselves angry when we give up control of our attitude. Whatever someone else may have done is irrelevant. We choose our attitude and response, not they. If we care about ourselves, then we must accept full responsibility for our own feelings and learn to guard against those feelings that have the capacity to influence our attitude in a negative way.

We teach our students that having the right attitude is one of the basics that success requires. Our Values Program complements the teaching of resilience, coping with change and developing a positive attitude.

#### **SPECIALIST PROGRAMS**

At Mill Park Primary School we offer four Specialist areas of learning:

#### **Health and Physical Education**

Health and Physical Education provides students with knowledge skills and behaviours to enable them to achieve a degree of independence in developing and maintaining their physical, mental, social and emotional health.

A healthy, physically active lifestyle is beneficial to more effective participation in all that society has to offer and greater levels of success within and beyond school. Engaging in physical activity, games, sport and outdoor recreation contributes to a sense of community and social connectedness. These are vital components of improved wellbeing.

Integral to Health and Physical Education is the acquisition of movement skills, concepts and strategies to enable students to confidently, competently and creatively participate in a range of physical activities. As a foundation for lifelong physical activity participation and enhanced performance, students develop proficiency in movement skills, physical activities and movement concepts and acquire an understanding of the science behind how the body moves. In doing so, they develop an appreciation of the significance of physical activity, outdoor recreation and sport both in Australian society and globally.

#### **Languages – Italian**

Learning languages in addition to English extends students' literacy skills and their capacity to communicate. It strengthens students' understanding of the nature of language, culture, and the processes of communication.

Learning a language also nurtures reflective, deep and creative thinking in specific ways. It cultivates culturally distinctive fields of knowledge, and stimulates awareness of intellectual functioning. In unique ways, languages require learners to engage in self-reflection because effective communication in a new language requires the learner to move outside the norms, practices and acquired behaviours of the first language.

Learners are provided with the tools, through comparison and reflection, to understand language, culture and humanity in a broader sense. In this way, language learning contributes to the development of inter-culturally aware citizens.

#### **The Arts – Music/Performing and Visual Arts**

In the Victorian Curriculum F–10, the Arts includes Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music, Visual Arts and Visual Communication Design.

The Arts enable students to develop their creative and expressive capacities by learning about the different practices, disciplines and traditions that have shaped the expression of culture locally, nationally and globally. Students are both artist and audience in the Arts. They make and respond and learn to appreciate the specific ways this occurs in different disciplines.

Learning in The Arts allows students to communicate their perceptions, observations and understanding of structures, function and concepts drawn from all areas of life. Learning programs provide opportunities for our students to experience a range of traditional, contemporary and new media/multi-disciplinary forms. The Arts play a pivotal role socially, economically and culturally.

The Victorian Curriculum outlines the learning in all curriculum areas. For more information about the learning focus for each Level go to <http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

#### **At our school the Specialists Team includes:**

Health and Physical Education: Mr Jason Gray

Italian Language: Ms Jessica Piraina (Team Leader)

Music: Mr Simon Ferwerda

Visual Arts: Mr Adam Horne

I will include information about our school's learning support programs in next week's newsletter.

### SCHOOL VALUES: focus on Compassion

Compassion means being kind and showing empathy towards others. This is what COMPASION looks like at Mill Park Primary School:



#### COMPASSION

- We accept people as they are
- We take an interest in others
- We have zero tolerance towards bullying
- We speak to people in a caring way
- We help people whenever we can
- We support others to be the best they can be
- We give others a voice and freedom to be heard

### SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Assembly will be held **tomorrow, Friday, 2nd March 2018 at 2.45pm**. Weather conditions will determine whether assembly is held outside or indoors. Please support the school's SunSmart policy by wearing a hat to outdoor assemblies.

### 2017 GRADUATES' AFTERNOON TEA

Every year our Year 6 teachers host an Afternoon Tea to catch up with the previous year's graduates and find out how they have settled into their secondary schools. Please inform any of our Graduating Class of 2017 that their reunion Afternoon Tea will be held next Wednesday, 7th March beginning at 4.00pm. We look forward to catching up with them all.

### MOVING BEYOND CYBER SAFETY FOR HAPPY, RESILIENT DIGITAL KIDS

The current generation of children and young people are fully-entrenched digital citizens who use the online world for entertainment, education and communication. But when it comes to kids and the digital world it seems that keeping kids safe online is regarded as the biggest priority.

Parents and teachers need to move way beyond keeping kids safe to looking at ways for kids to be smart and savvy users in the digital space.

Please refer to the attachment in today's newsletter in which Parenting Ideas expert **Martine Oglethorpe** has written a cracking blog post showing you how to move away from a fear based approach. Martine outlines five critical areas to focus on that will help your kids be happy, resilient users of digital technologies.

I leave you with a quote from classical Greek philosopher Socrates, 'The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.'

**Lu Alessi**

**Principal**

## NEWS FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Our Family Picnic was held last Friday evening and weren't we lucky to share this special evening with all our students, family and school community! The night began with children sharing their classroom and achievements for the year so far with their parents, also giving the opportunity for family members to meet their child's teacher. Following this was the BYO picnic and some great games that had teachers, students and parents alike involved! It really was a fantastic evening, with everyone able to get to know each other in a relaxed, informal environment. Mill Park Primary School prides itself on the special bond our community has between students, teachers and families, so we thank everyone who came- we know that this helps us build the best learning environment for our students.



## PFA Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

A reminder that **Saturday 17th March 8:00am – 4:00pm**, the PFA is holding a Sausage Sizzle BBQ at Bunnings South Morang. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated, so if you are able to help please leave your name and number at the office and a PFA member will ring you as soon as possible.

## PFA Bakers Delight Hot Cross Buns

With Easter just around the corner, what better way to contribute to raising money for our school than order a pack of Hot Cross Buns! Orders are **due on Monday 19th March**, with pick up at school on Tuesday 27th March. Every pack of Hot Cross Buns sold \$ 2:00 goes directly to the school to buy much needed resources for our students- so get your orders in quick!!

## Child Safe Standards

In 2012 the Victorian Government initiated an inquiry into the handling of child abuse allegations within religious and other non-government agencies. The inquiry's final report 'Betrayal of Trust', made a number of recommendations that have been acted on by Victorian government.

The introduction of Child Safe Standards across all schools, form part of the Victorian Government's response to the recommendations of the Betrayal of Trust Report, which found that more must be done to prevent and respond to child abuse.

The Child Safe Standards set out to create, safe places for children to fully and actively participate in the life of the community benefiting everyone.

Mill Park Primary School will ensure that the children in its care are protected to the best of its ability and in line with the compulsory Child Safe Standards.

School Council has endorsed a range of policies and procedures that comply with the Child Safe Standards requirements

### **The 7 Child Safe Standards that have been implemented are:**

1. Strategies to embed a culture of child safety, through effective leadership measures
2. A Child Safe Policy
3. A Code of Conduct that has established clear expectations for appropriate behaviour with children
4. Screening, supervision, training and other resource practices that reduce the risk of child abuse by new and existing personnel
5. Processes for responding to and reporting suspected child abuse
6. Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse
7. Strategies to promote the participation and empowerment of children

I have attached the Child Safe Policy for your information.

Have a great week and enjoy the beautiful weather!



**Carol Vidmar**  
**Assistant Principal**

## CSEF

Just a reminder to submit your CSEF application as soon as possible if you are eligible for CSEF.

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2017, you do not need to complete an application form in 2018 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. Your child's school will apply for the CSEF on your behalf.

You will only need to submit an application form in 2018 if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments: your child has started or changed schools in 2018 or you did not apply at the same school in 2017 or
- changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2018.

Schools are able to accept and process applications up until the end of term two each year.

CSEF payments are made to schools from March onwards each year. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.

The CSEF payment cannot be used towards voluntary school charges, books, stationery, school uniforms, before/after school care, music lessons, or formals/graduations.

**Angela Falso**  
**Business Manager**

## SCHOOL PHOTOS ON 5TH MARCH

**School Photos will be happening this Monday, 5th March.**  
**Parents please note** - Students are to wear proper school uniform (no sport tops are to be worn) on Photo Day.

By now your child/ren would have received a personalised order envelope. Please read carefully and select the option that you would like.

If your child/ren did not receive an envelope please come and collect one from the office.

**All envelopes are to be returned with the correct money inside on the day of Photo Day which is Monday, 5th March.**

If you require siblings photo envelopes they are available at the office.

Also if you have any enquiries please call MSP Photography on 9466 7331.

**Vivian Gulia**  
**School Photos Coordinator**

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

**Please note** that we require a Working With Children Check for you to help out in the classrooms, incursions/excursion, camps and sleepovers.

Once you complete the form which is available from the post office and receive a receipt you can help out in the classrooms etc. provided that you have provided the office with a copy of your receipt.

**Vivian Gulia**  
**WWCC Coordinator**



**Congratulations** to the following students who have handed in their SUPER SAVER Reward vouchers to redeem a reward:

**Olivia H5, Lachlan H3, Hadi E1, Dylan E1, Vanessa E3, Kaitlyn E3, Zaid W10 and Tiahna W10.**

Your rewards are in the School office awaiting your collection. Keep earning those tokens to redeem a prize, remember every time you bank with School Banking you earn a silver token – collect ten & you can redeem a reward.

Happy saving!!

**Alison Wylie**  
**School Banking Coordinator**

## 2017 GRADUATES' AFTERNOON TEA

Please inform any of our Graduating Class of 2017 that their reunion Afternoon Tea will be held on **Wednesday, 7th March at 4.00pm**, in the Eucalypt Building. We look forward to seeing them.

**Bill Boicovitis**  
**Year 6 Coodinator**

## SPORTS CORNER

An incredible day at the District Swimming Carnival – What an amazing start to 2018!

Last Wednesday the Swimming Team's performance was the best I have seen in my 15 years at Mill Park Primary School. The team finished in 3rd place overall, 8 points out of second with 12 students moving on to Divisional Competition. The photo below sums up the experience for the kids, parents and yours truly. I witnessed so many smiles and cheers and great sportsmanship throughout the competition and of course I am extremely proud of our team. On the 5th March 12 students whose names are in bold below will be representing our school and sport district at the Whittlesea/Hume Swim Carnival.



Photo (Left to Right): **Sonia, Poppy, Jennifer and Michaela**

Congratulations to all the team members that were so incredible to watch and coach!

<b>Kristian</b>	Aran
<b>Grady</b>	Jaiydn
<b>Harrison</b>	Haytham
<b>Nicholas</b>	Amalie
<b>Bailey</b>	Vanessa
<b>Elijah</b>	Rasika
<b>Alexander</b>	Kiara
<b>Myah</b>	Mackenzie
	Michael
	Charlie

**Middle Years District Athletics Carnival: March 15th**

The Athletics Carnival is fast approaching and I am looking for parent volunteers to assist at the 100 and 200m finish lines ordering students and handing out place and well done ribbons. Please contact myself as soon as possible so I can finish my organisation for this event. Please note volunteers do not just have to be from the Middle Years classes.

Sincerely,  
**Jason Gray**  
PE Teacher/Sports Coordinator



Each year the University of New South Wales invites Early and Middle Years school children (beginning Year 3) to participate in competitions in a variety of subject areas. These areas are Science, Spelling, Mathematics, Writing, Reading and Digital Technologies. The tests are held at school on different days over the year. All tests are held after school. There is a cost involved which varies depending on the subject area (ranges from \$9.90 to \$19.80). The cost is set by the University. **Children do NOT have to sit each test and this is NOT a compulsory part of our school curriculum.**

The permission form for ICAS testing 2018 is attached to this week's newsletter and are for students in Years 3 – 6 only. **The permission form and money needs to be returned by Tuesday 20th March 2018.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to come and see Kaylee Andrew in W2, Luke Baldassini in E4, or Evie Cacoyannis in W10.

#### **Subject Sitting Dates**

Digital Technologies	Tuesday 8th May
Science	Tuesday 29th May
Writing	Thursday 14th June
Spelling	Wednesday 13th June
English	Tuesday 31st July
Mathematics	Tuesday 14th August

#### **ICAS Testing Coordinators**

**Kaylee Andrew, Luke Baldassini and Evie Cacoyannis**

## **PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION NEWS**

### **FUNDRAISING CALENDAR – Term 1**

#### **Bunning's BBQ**

#### **Hot Cross Buns**

The PFA are holding a BBQ at Bunnings South Morang on **Saturday 17th March between 8am and 4pm**. As usual we require plenty of help on the day and we continue to seek volunteers. If you could assist for an hour or two, please email us at [millparkprimarypfa@gmail.com](mailto:millparkprimarypfa@gmail.com). Alternatively, you can leave your details at the office and a PFA member will contact you.

Our school is collecting the Coles Sports for Schools Vouchers. There is a collection box at the office and also at Coles Uni Hill. Please remember to collect the vouchers when you shop at Coles.

The Parents and Friends Association meet on the second Tuesday of each month in the Community Room. These meetings are open to all parents, guardians, grandparents and interested members of the School Community. Our next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 13th March 2018** in the Community Room. We hope to see you there!

**Christine Gale**  
PFA Secretary



**For all 3 year old and 4 year old enrolment enquiries**

**Please contact: 9404 2623**



## Learning Awards



### Term 1 Week 5

#### Prep:

**Waratah 1:** Sarah

**For writing the number 8.**

**Waratah 2:** Tim

**For his very hard work all week.**

**Waratah 3:** Anton

**For his beautiful handwriting of the letter S.**

**Waratah 4:** Gurnoor

**For working hard in all learning.**

#### Year 1

**Waratah 5:** Marko

**For being a Maths Wizard.**

**Waratah 6:** Gabriel

**For sounding out words.**

**Waratah 7:** Scout

**For completing a wonderful Big Write story.**

**Waratah 8:** Oscar

**For excellent stretching out of words in writing and reading.**

#### Year 2

**Waratah 9:** Daniel

**For his detailed and descriptive recount writing.**

**Waratah 10:** Suhaib

**For his outstanding effort when completing classroom work.**

**Eucalypt 1:** Chloe

**For a great effort with Recount writing.**

#### Year 3

**Hibiscus 1:** Sophia

**For great class discussions.**

**Hibiscus 2:** Nehan

**For excellent place value work in Maths.**

**Hibiscus 3:** Lizzie

**For her great effort in all learning areas.**

#### Year 4

**Hibiscus 4:** Jack

**For his amazing efforts during Reading.**

#### Year 5

**Eucalypt 2:** Zimo

**For an excellent narrative piece.**

**Eucalypt 3:** Cooper

**For excellent understanding of renaming numbers.**

**Eucalypt 4:** Logan

**For using excellent openers in his narrative.**

#### Year 6

**Eucalypt 5:** Kit

**For an improved understanding of place value.**

**Eucalypt 6:** Jamie

**For working hard to improve his comprehension skills.**

**Eucalypt 7:** Demi

**For wonderful reading during Novel Study.**

## Citizenship Awards



## Term 1 Week 5

### PREP

**Waratah 1:** Fatima

**For demonstrating the value of Excellence.**

**Waratah 2:** Verity

**For demonstrating the value of Respect.**

**Waratah 3:** Winston

**For demonstrating the value of Compassion.**

**Waratah 4:** Viana

**For demonstrating the Value of Integrity.**

### Year 1

**Waratah 5:** Tina

**For demonstrating the value of Compassion.**

**Waratah 6:** Megan

**For demonstrating the value of Excellence.**

**Waratah 7:** Jiaqi

**For demonstrating the value of Integrity.**

**Waratah 8:** Charli

**For showing the value of Compassion.**

### Year 2

**Waratah 9:** Adel

**For demonstrating the value of Integrity.**

**Waratah 10:** Munirah

**For demonstrating the value of Compassion.**

**Eucalypt 1:** Alistair

**For demonstrating the value of Compassion.**

### Year 3

**Hibiscus 1:** Lucas

**For demonstrating the value of Integrity.**

**Hibiscus 2:** Jovana

**For demonstrating the value of Respect.**

**Hibiscus 3:** Grace

**For demonstrating the value of Compassion.**

### Year 4

**Hibiscus 4:** Armani

**For demonstrating the value of Integrity.**

### Year 5

**Eucalypt 2:** Fouad

**For demonstrating the value of Integrity.**

**Eucalypt 3:** Aleisha

**For demonstrating the value of Excellence.**

**Eucalypt 4:** Anwar

**For demonstrating the value of Excellence.**

### Year 6

**Eucalypt 5:** Aziza

**For demonstrating the value of Excellence.**

**Eucalypt 6:** Sarah

**For demonstrating the value of Excellence.**

**Eucalypt 7:** Taylor

**For demonstrating the value of Compassion.**

<b>Mill Park Primary School</b> 	<b>Child Safe Policy</b>	<b>Responsibility:</b> Principal <b>Revised:</b> 2016 <b>Next Review:</b> 2018
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**DEFINITIONS:**

Mill Park Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children. This will be the primary focus of our care and decision-making. Mill Park Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

**AIMS:**

Mill Park Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal and children from culturally and/ or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.

**RATIONALE:**

Every person involved in Mill Park Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision made.

Children at Mill Park Primary School will be encouraged to be empowered, vital and active participants within the school community. We involve our students when making decisions, especially about matters that directly affect them. We listen to their views and respect what they have to say.

**GUIDELINES:**

Planning, decision making and operations at Mill Park Primary School will:

- take a preventative, proactive and participatory approach to child safety
- value and empower children to participate in decisions that affect their lives
- foster a culture of openness that supports all persons to safely disclose risks of harm to children
- respect diversity in cultures and child rearing practices while keeping child safety paramount
- provide written guidance on appropriate conduct and behaviour towards children
- engage only the most suitable people to work with children and have high quality staff and volunteer supervision and professional development
- ensure children know who to talk with if they are worried or are feeling unsafe, and that they are comfortable and encouraged to raise issue
- report suspected abuse, neglect or mistreatment promptly to the appropriate authorities
- share information appropriately and lawfully with other organisations where the safety and wellbeing of children is at risk
- value the input of and communicate with families and carers.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

Our staff and volunteers must agree to abide by our code of conduct which specifies the standards of conduct required when working with children. All staff, students and members of the wider community are given the opportunity to contribute to the development of the code of conduct.

**Training and supervision:**

Training and education is important to ensure that everyone at Mill Park Primary School understands that children's safety is everyone's responsibility.

Our culture aims for all staff, students and members of our community to feel confident and comfortable in discussing any allegations of child abuse or child safety concerns. We train our staff to identify, assess, and minimise risks of child abuse and to detect potential signs of child abuse.

We support our staff through ongoing professional development to develop their skills to protect children from abuse and promote the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from linguistically and/or diverse backgrounds, and the safety of children with a disability.

We ensure all staff and volunteers understand Mill Park Primary School's commitment to child safety and that everyone has a role to play in protecting children from abuse, as well as checking that their behaviour towards children is safe and appropriate.

\*Please refer to our Code of Conduct

Any inappropriate behaviour will be reported through appropriate channels, including the Department of Health and Human Services and Victoria Police, depending on the severity and urgency of the matter.

**Recruitment:**

We take all reasonable steps to employ skilled people to work with our children. We develop selection criteria and advertisements which clearly demonstrate our commitment to child safety and an awareness of our social and legislative responsibilities. Mill Park Primary School understands that when recruiting staff and volunteers we have ethical as well as legislative obligations.

We encourage applications from Aboriginal peoples, people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds and people with a disability.

All people engaged by Mill Park Primary School, including School Council members, PFA, volunteers and trades people, are required to hold a Working with Children Check and to provide evidence of this documentation.

We carry out reference checks to ensure that we are recruiting the right people.

**Fair procedures for personnel:**

The safety and wellbeing of children is our primary concern. We are also fair and just to personnel. The decisions we make when recruiting, assessing incidents, and undertaking disciplinary action will always be thorough, transparent and based on evidence.

We record all allegations of abuse and safety concerns using our incident reporting form, including investigation updates. All records are securely stored.

If an allegation of abuse or a safety concern is raised where appropriate we provide updates to children and families on the progress and any actions we as an organisation take.

**Privacy:**

All personal information considered or recorded will respect the privacy of the individuals involved, whether they be staff, volunteers, parents or children, unless there is a risk to someone's safety. We have safeguards and practices in place to ensure any personal information is protected. Everyone is entitled to know how this information is recorded, what will be done with it, and who will have access to it.

**Legislative responsibilities:**

Mill Park Primary School takes our legal responsibilities seriously, including:

- **Failure to disclose:** Reporting child sexual abuse is a community-wide responsibility. All adults in Victoria who have a reasonable belief that an adult has committed a sexual offence against a child under 16 have an obligation to report that information to the police.
- **Failure to protect:** People of authority at Mill Park Primary School will commit an offence if they know of a substantial risk of child sexual abuse and have the power or responsibility to reduce or remove the risk, but negligently fail to do so.
- Any personnel who are Mandatory Reporters must comply with their duties.

**Risk management:**

In Victoria, organisations are required to protect children when a risk is identified (see information about failure to protect above). In addition to general occupational health and safety risks, we proactively manage risks of abuse to our children.

We have risk management strategies in place to identify, assess and take steps to minimise child abuse risks, which include risks posed by physical environments (for example, any doors that can lock) and online environments (for example, no staff or volunteer is to have contact with a child currently at the school through social media).

**Allegations, concerns and complaints:**

Mill Park Primary School takes all allegations seriously and has practices in place to investigate thoroughly and quickly. Our staff are trained to deal appropriately with allegations.

We work to ensure all children, families, staff and volunteers know what to do and who to tell if they observe abuse or are a victim, and if they notice inappropriate behaviour.

We all have a responsibility to report an allegation of abuse if we have a reasonable belief that an incident took place (see information about failure to disclose above).

If an adult has a reasonable belief that an incident has occurred then they must report the incident. Factors contributing to reasonable belief may be:

- a child states they or someone they know has been abused (noting that sometimes the child may in fact be referring to themselves)
- behaviour consistent with that of an abuse victim is observed
- someone else has raised a suspicion of abuse but is unwilling to report it
- observing suspicious behaviour.

**EVALUATION:**

This policy will be reviewed every two years and following significant incidents if they occur. We will ensure that families and children have the opportunity to contribute to the policy guidelines. Where possible we do our best to work with local Aboriginal communities, culturally and/or linguistically diverse communities and people with a disability in gaining guidance/feedback and advice.



AFTER  
SCHOOL  
CARE

by  
Camp  
Australia

we make kids smile

## GREAT FUN

- ★ Outdoor games and sports
- ★ Arts & Crafts
- ★ Playing with friends
- ★ Great Educators
- ★ Food and Cooking
- ★ Indoor Activities

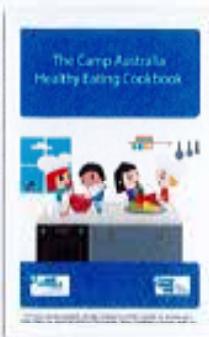


To book, visit:  
[www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)  
or call 1300 105 343

## We've been cooking up a storm in OSCHC

In After School Care we love cooking healthy, delicious meals and snacks from our Healthy Eating Cookbook. All the recipes in our cookbook support our healthy eating program and are officially endorsed by Nutrition Australia.

Hummus is a popular recipe from the cookbook, so we thought we'd share the recipe with you to try at home.



### Hummus

Best served with vegetables, corn chips or chapati  
(Recipe serves 15)

#### You'll need:

- 1 tin of chickpeas (drained but reserve some liquid for blending)
- 1-2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- Juice of one orange
- 2 tablespoons of cream cheese (optional)



#### Method:

1. Blend all ingredients until smooth
2. Use as a spread for sandwiches and/or wraps, toasted bread or rice cakes.

Serve as a dip with cornchips, veggie sticks or crackers

### Come along and see what we're cooking up

You can visit us in the program to see what healthy meals and snacks are on the menu or let us know if you enjoyed the hummus.

### Program details

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit [www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon.

From the Team at Camp Australia

## **MOVING BEYOND CYBER SAFETY FOR HAPPY, RESILIENT DIGITAL KIDS**

BY MARTINE OGLETHORPE

As digital devices become increasingly immersed into our lives, it is certainly clear they will continue to play a major role in the education, learning, entertainment and socialization of our children's lives.

This can be a scary prospect for a parent today as we are saturated with news about predators, pornography, cyber-bullying and sexting. And certainly these are real concerns, as is the safety of our children on these devices.

But these devices are not going anywhere and so we need to be smarter when it comes to helping our kids navigate this world. And for me, that means moving away from a fear based approach, toward one that helps our kids get the skills, behaviours and thinking to become not only safe, but happy and resilient users of digital technologies.

Our kids are getting pretty good at keeping their passwords safe, not sharing private information, and thinking about talking to strangers online. All important lessons we need to continue to teach. But being immersed in this world requires skills and behaviours well beyond safety measures. It needs to be an ongoing lesson in critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem, empathy and the promotion of good habits that they can carry with them throughout life.

### **Digital Resilience**

The online world opens us up to comments, judgements and even abuse from people known and unknown, all coming from different backgrounds and situations, all with different beliefs, and all with a little extra keyboard courage or anonymity. Whilst we would like to be promoting kindness and respect online, this is not always the reality. We need our kids to be able to recognize and move on from the people whose opinions do not matter. The greater audience and the permanence of the online world also means the effects of mistakes are magnified. They need to be able to withstand the very permanent and public nature of this world. There may always be a party they are not invited to, or a sleepover they were excluded from, so how will they deal with the constant flow of images appearing in their social media feeds?

### **Self esteem away from the screens**

There will always be comparison online. With access to so much and so many, there will always be someone prettier, smarter, skinnier, with more friends, more likes or more followers. We need to be constantly working on the self esteem of our kids, both online and off. Conversations about our self worth, where that comes from, whose opinion matters, what success and happiness really looks like. These all need to form part of the equation, not just how many likes you get on your latest selfie.

### **Digital skills**

Our kids need skills to know how to handle different situations that arise online. Do they know how to abort a conversation that is going badly? How do they speak up in a group chat when someone is being excluded or spoken about in a nasty way? How do they deal with unwanted attention online? Do they have the words to respond to a nasty comment? Should they respond? As so much of their social life and connection to others will be based around online conversations, these are just some of the skills our kids need to have in order to keep those interactions positive.

### **Good habits**

The earlier we start with good habits, the greater chance we have of them becoming behaviours they adopt throughout adolescents and beyond. So start out with your own rules to ensure these habits are formed. Maybe it is no devices an hour before bed, no devices in the bedroom, no devices at the dinner table, asking permission before sharing pictures of others. Making sure there is plenty of time for friends, extra curricula activities, outside play, chores, homework and good sleep. These all help us be in charge of our time management and the control we have over our devices, so they don't end up controlling us.

### **Critical thinking**

There is so much content online, so our kids need to be really good at determining that which is real, fake, relevant, helpful and worthwhile. This can be a difficult task (even for adults), but a crucial skill. Critical thinking must be an ongoing process every time they watch a video, look at a photo, read an article or connect with someone. Why was this written or produced? Is there language bias? Are they trying to sell me something? Is there research to back up their claims? Would this video have a warning if it was on TV? Is this worth my time? These are just some of the critical thinking questions kids need to be asking of themselves every time they consume content online.

So whilst keeping our kids safe and giving them the skills to do this is of utmost importance, there is so much more to cyber safety than avoiding predators. The emotional and social well-being of our kids and the ability for them to be in the best position possible to learn, grow and thrive are imperative, and will help them become resilient and happy both online and off.

*About the author: Martine Oglethorpe is a mother to 5 boys with a background in secondary education and a Masters in Counselling.*

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## 2018 ICAS Permission Form

Please return this form with your payment, to your school no later than Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

I give permission for my child- ..... of .....

Child's name

Home Group

to participate in the following 2018 ICAS assessments.

ICAS testing will happen after school on the dates below.

Please select the subjects you would like your child to participate in:

Subject/Paper	School Year	Official Sitting Date	Participation Fee (incl. GST)	Fee Enclosed
Digital Technologies	3-6	8 May 2018	\$9.90	
Science	3-6	29 May 2018	\$9.90	
Spelling	3-6	13 June 2018	\$13.20	
Writing	3-6	14 June 2018	\$19.80	
English	3-6	31 July 2018	\$9.90	
Mathematics	3-6	14 August 2018	\$9.90	
TOTAL				

Students must sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals.

Please find enclosed for payment of the total fee, \$.....

Amount

Name of Parent/Guardian ..... Date ..... / ..... / .....

Signature of Parent/Guardian .....



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# Showcase Evening

Monday 19 March 2018

Middle Years Campus 5.00 - 8.00pm

Principal's welcome will be held at 5pm and 6.45pm followed by school tours.

Accelerated Learning Programs (SEAL, STEM and  
Accelerated English) special information session at 6.30pm.

Extensive Curriculum from Year 7-12

Wide range of VCE, VET and VCAL subjects

Accelerated Programs SEAL, STEM and English

Strong Pastoral Care Program

Safe learning environment

Excellent specialist classroom facilities

Extra Curricular activities

Experience what  
makes Mill Park  
Secondary College  
unique and learn  
about our programs  
and successes.

## Middle Years Campus

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