

INSIDE IVANHOE

Ivanhoe Primary School Newsletter

Issue 1 – January 2019

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From the Principal.

Dear Parents and Community.

Welcome to school. There is always something interesting going on at IPS. Please read the entire newsletter.

Please note that due to repairs to the floor in the hall the first school assembly will be on Monday 4th February. The first few assemblies do not include Foundation as they settle in to their new routines.

We have a terrific team of committed teachers, education support and administration staff. This year we welcome our newest members Sonya McCarthy, Chrissy Temple, Rebecca Romeo and Mollie McCormack to the team.

Toward the end of 2018 we completed **The Treehouse** and renamed the adjacent classroom **The Cubby House**. These will be home to our Foundation students this year. Over the Christmas holidays air conditioners were installed in our new classrooms; the hall has been refurbished and repainted leaving only a previously damaged section of the floor to be repaired in the next term break. Safety paint and bull nosing has been added to stairs and poles reducing the likelihood of trip hazard accidents. Toward the end of the year / early 2020 we begin building again. This project will see the removal of many of the relocatable buildings that are a part of our current landscape.

Thank you to parents and staff who watered the gardens over the holidays and got us through those particularly hot spells. We rely on community involvement in so many ways and in the coming weeks we will publish ways in which you can contribute to the school community.

We intend to embark on a number of new initiatives in 2019. One will see our Year 5 and 6s combining robotics with football (sounds interesting). Our classroom recycling activities will extend to the playground with new bins and ways of doing things. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with 3D printing as part of our Digital Learning Technologies program. We will be exploring new ways of giving our students more voice, agency and leadership across the learning program.

Choir for those who love to sing will be on Tuesday Mornings at 8am sharp in the Music Room. More details about this magnificent program will be provided shortly.

We encourage active walking and riding of bicycles to school. Some days there may be fewer racks than there are bikes so consider locking your bike to a friend's bike, (Please be respectful and ask first). A large gate has been installed on Lowe Street so bikes can be walked through the garden for parking. (PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BIKE LOCK as we cannot be held responsible for theft.)

Traffic is a big issue for our school particularly at drop off and pick up. There have been many near misses that could have resulted in catastrophic damage to life, limb and property. Please consider walking to school or parking the car behind Bryant Reserve and walking through the park. It only takes a lapse in concentration or a distraction.

Please leave yourself enough time so you don't have to rush.

Term 1

Monday 4 th February.	School Assembly (except Foundation Classes)
Friday 15 th February	IPS Families Welcome Picnic
25 th February – 1 st March	Meet the Teacher week
Sunday 17 th March	Working bee – Foundation families and friends
Monday 18 th March	School Photo Day
Monday 25 th March	Foundation students start full time
Friday 5 th April	Last Day Term 1



KIDS AROUND!





We focus on positive behaviours and good citizenship. Please help us by talking to your child often about our school values and the importance of being fair to and accepting of all people. Everyone has the right to feel safe at school. Our School Values are Confidence, Independence, Persistence, Resilience and Respect.

It is up to all of us to bring our values to life and present them in a way that makes sense. Here are some examples.

Persistence is not giving up, having more than one go at something, trying again when you get something wrong or just practicing to do your best.

Resilience - Resilient people often feel good about themselves. There is a difference between people who bounce back easily and those who get frustrated. If you can learn to bounce back you'll do better at everything in life.

Confidence - Self-confidence is the belief in yourself and in your abilities. That you can do it. When you experience success, you feel good inside and you want to do better.

Independence – our aim is to ensure that every student is able to develop into an adult capable of looking after themselves, to thrive on the challenges that life throws at us, to experiment sensibly with risks and develop your own ways of doing things successfully.

Respect - is thinking and acting in a way that shows others you care about their feelings and their well-being.

Behaviours that disrupt learning and teaching in the classroom will not be tolerated.

Celebrations and sharing food

For reasons relating to food allergies and safety, as well as the significant financial impost brought to bear, families are respectfully requested that under **NO** circumstances are you to supply birthday cakes, cupcakes, sweets, gifts and toys etc on school grounds – including at the OSHC program. I apologize in advance if this seems harsh, but the wellbeing of every student must be our primary concern. Consider celebrating birthdays and other events at a local park or in your own home. Be mindful that many of our students are anaphylactic and food allergens pose a very real threat.

We are a registered SunSmart school and children must wear wide brimmed hats in Term One and Term Four. Children without hats will be directed to the shade cloth areas at the top of the school near the Waterdale Rd building. Hats are required for Physical Education classes and Sport.

Students should not be left unsupervised at school. Teachers are on duty from 8.45am to 9am as well as from 3.30pm – 3.45pm. Your child's safety cannot be guaranteed outside of these times, so if time is an issue for you please make arrangements with another family to drop off and or pick up. School staff are not traffic wardens and cannot direct traffic. Please use common sense and focus on safety when dropping off or collecting children.

Some of our foundation students may find settling in to the larger environment difficult initially but they will be assigned older buddies to help them make friends. Some may find it difficult separating from their parent(s) in the morning, but I assure you after mums and dads have left they do settle down. Please extricate yourself as soon as you can after they go in to class and the anxiety will soon pass.

Student Leadership

At the beginning of next Monday's assembly, semester one Junior School Councilors, Environmental Leaders and Peer Leaders will be acknowledged. House Captains will help me disseminate the leadership badges.

Star of the Week

Star of the Week awards will begin Monday 11th of February for Years 1 to Year 6. Foundation Star of the Week will begin later in February, once they have settled in to their school routine and understand the concepts behind the acknowledgement.

Information nights and other communication opportunities

Parents and families play an important role in supporting their child's education, by providing learning opportunities at home and linking what the child learns at school with what happens elsewhere. Research has shown that when schools and families work together, outcomes for students improve.

We believe that communication is key to developing relationships between school and home that support your child in their learning. Information evenings will be scheduled to provide you with an opportunity to listen to your child's teachers speak about the curriculum and the schools expectations. There will be the opportunity to ask questions and to hear how you can help your child do their best at school. A timetable of these evenings and times will be published shortly.

There are two other formally scheduled opportunities for you to meet with your teacher this year, as well as an information evening. These are:

1/ Meet the teacher will occur later in Term 1, giving you the opportunity to share information about your child.

2/ In Term 3, we will meet to discuss your child's progress after you have received their mid-year report at the end of Term 2.

While these are scheduled opportunities, teachers are also available to meet with you throughout the school year to discuss your child's progress. Shortly you will receive a welcome letter from your child's teacher with a bit more information that is just for your class and will let you know how you can get involved.

Our focus is your child, so help us by understanding that our work is complex. We want to build positive relationships with every family and every student. Teaching staff are expected to attend meetings before and after school although your child's teacher will generally be in their classroom at 8.50am. Please remember at the start of the day teachers are getting learning ready, so will not always have much time for more than a hello and pleasantries. For a more comprehensive conversation please make an appointment through the school office or approach your child's teacher directly after school to make a time.

We are endeavouring to streamline our communication processes.

In 2019, the school will be using two apps to communicate with you:

Compass is the school's primary portal for parents and carers. The weekly school newsletter and other school notices will be available on Compass. You will use Compass to pay and provide consent for special school and class activities, and to access your child's mid-year and end-of-year reports.

ClassDojo will keep you informed with what is happening in the grade. Your child's teacher will post notes and photos to let you know what they are learning throughout the year, which will provide you with some ideas for what you could do at home. This will only be accessible to families of each grade.

The school website will continue to provide broad based information and updates relevant to the school community and remains a work in progress.

The school newsletter will continue to be published weekly and be served up as a link on COMPASS and can be downloaded on the website.

School Council Elections – NOMINATIONS OPEN NOW.

School council members are elected for approximately a two year term. Half the membership is elected or co-opted every year. This creates vacancies for school councillor positions every year. If a councillor fails to complete their term a vacancy is advertised and filled for the remainder of the original term of office.

Nominations are now called for membership of the School Council of Ivanhoe Primary School. There are two types of parent member category nomination forms – Schedule 5A 'Self Nomination' form or Schedule 5B Nomination form. Schedule B is used when a school parent nominates another school parent. Nomination forms may be obtained from, or by contacting, the school office and must be lodged with the principal / school office by 4.00 pm on 08/02/2019. Nomination forms are available from the 25/01/2019.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominees received will be posted on the noticeboards at the school and communicated by COMPASS.

If there are more nominations than there are vacant positions, an election will be held and a vote will be conducted.

If an election is called nominees will be encouraged to submit a short bio about themselves (approximately 250 words) which will be published on the 11/02/2019. Voting slips will then be made available to all eligible voters on 12/02/2019.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on 19/02/2019. The community will be informed of the successful candidates on the 21/02/19 and the first meeting of Ivanhoe Primary School Council will be at 7.30pm Wednesday 27th February 2019. * (7.00 pm correspondence tabled)

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member (two years)	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021.	5
Parent member (single year as a result of a resignation)	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2020.	1
DET employee member (two years)	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2019 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2021.	2

Generally speaking there are two council meetings per term (Three in Term 2). Every council member is asked to serve on one of the many sub committees of School Council. Every School Council Member is required to attend school governance training organised by the principal.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Information for parents is provided together with the translation in to a variety of languages at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/governance/Pages/electionmaterials.aspx>

Thank you.
Mark Kent (Principal)

