



# NEWSLETTER

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*Learners today Leaders tomorrow*

## WHOLE SCHOOL RETURN TO ONSITE LEARNING

Although there is an overall excitement around all P-6 students returning onsite as of today, we understand and appreciate there is some anxiety within the wider community around the impact of COVID. We will continue to support the school community in any way possible during this time.

We continue to work under the operating guide from the Department of Education & Training with reference to Covid-19.

- **Face Masks:** All of our Year 3-6 students are required to wear a face mask indoors at school. This is a health directive that all schools must follow. Given that students do not need to wear a face mask outside at recess. We have provided a zip lock bag so that students can place their face mask into it when they leave the classroom for the recess breaks. Even sending a spare face mask might be an idea as we get used to these new requirements.

**P PLEASE NOTE:** The school is not in a position to supply face masks to children so please do not assume that a child can collect a face mask from the office.

- **If your child is unwell then they are to remain at home.** Students in quarantine: For those students who are isolating at home, we thank you for your patience and your resilience. I remind your families that the school is required to sight your child's negative test result, so if you can provide that via email or text message that will be wonderful.





- **Parents/carers:** May I remind our school community of the importance and need to be wearing face masks when waiting at the perimeter of the school. We still require parents/carers to socially distance when meeting on the school perimeter and to be wearing facemasks. We want our school to remain open and we all need to do our bit to keep the COVID virus at bay.

## BENDIGO CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY—WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 27th

We look forward to having all students P-6 back onsite next week although a friendly reminder that next Wednesday 27th October is a public holiday. Students will not attend school on this day.

## STUDENT ILLNESS

Although we would love to have all children at school, we need to remind families that if your child is ill or feeling unwell, they must not attend school. They must remain home and seek medical advice. It is also extremely important to communicate with the school if you or any family members are required to isolate due to a COVID exposure. We know that expectations around isolating continue to change and will leave it up to DHHS to provide specific advice. It is also essential that you make contact with the school if your child is absent. This can be completed via phone, email or Class Dojo message your teacher.

<b>BE YOUR BEST</b> 	<b>BE RESPECTFUL</b> 	<b>BE CO-OPERATIVE</b> 	<b>BE RESPONSIBLE</b> 
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## ASTHMA & HAY FEVER SEASON

It is essential that families make contact with the office if children need medication for Hay Fever through the school day. It will need to be sent to the office, clearly named with pharmacy label attached and a medication authority form completed. Make sure that the medication is in date. Please inform the school office if your child has been medicated before school on any particular day. If your child is asthmatic then they should have their asthma medication and a spacer in the office area for use when needed.

## WATER BOTTLES

As the weather warms up we ask that children have a drink bottle to use in the classroom. It is important to keep hydrated by drinking water and reduces interruptions during learning time needing to go to the bubble taps. Please only fill with water!

## HATS

It's time to be wearing hats. We have been a little lenient on hat wearing over the past few weeks, but with the return of all students to school, we would expect that all students will be wearing hats by Monday.

## TRANSITION DAYS 2022

At this time the Department have not given schools guidance on the running of Transitions for Year 6-Year 7 or Kinder-Prep in Term 4. What Year 6 Graduation looks like in 2021 is still to be confirmed. We have a number of different ideas regarding these two matters and will keep you informed as soon as we get more information.

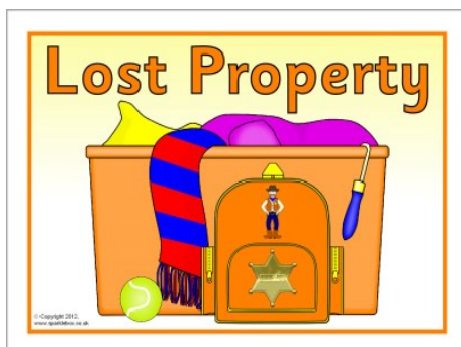
*Jo Ryan*

Acting Principal

Lightning Reef Primary School

Ph: 54432501

**Don't forget to check lost property if you are missing any items. It is located in the foyer of the gym and it is filling up fast.**



**Just a reminder hats need to be worn outside from September 1st. Hats are available from Lowes Marketplace. Please make sure your child's name is on their hat.**



**Happy Birthday to Gabriella N L P  
and Brilliant P.**

**We hope you have an amazing day.**



**PLEASE NOTE THAT SWIMMING  
HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR THIS  
YEAR.**

### **Calendar of events:**

**Friday 22nd October** - All students  
back onsite

**Wednesday October 27th** -  
**Bendigo Cup Day - NO SCHOOL**

**Friday October 29th** - Glasses For  
Kids program

**Wednesday November 3rd** -  
School Photos

**Wednesday November 10th** -  
Student free day- NO SCHOOL

**Wednesday December 1st**-  
Student free day—NO SCHOOL

**Tuesday December 14th** -  
Student led conferences

**Friday December 17th** - Last day  
of Term 4

### **CONTACT US:**

**5443 2501**

**Acting Principal:**

Jo Ryan

**Business Manager:**

Kristie Coates

**Leading Teacher:**

Paul Keller

**Learning Specialist:**

Katrina Johnstone

**Specialist Coordinator:**

Georgia King

**Social Worker:**

Gai Maddams

**School Council President**

Sonia Valli

**Parents and Friends President:**

Daria Turnbull

**Please  
remember  
smoking is  
banned  
within four  
metres of an  
entrance to  
all Victorian  
Schools and  
within the  
school  
grounds, this  
includes our  
shared  
entrance and  
the bus stop**



**BE YOUR BEST**



**BE RESPECTFUL**



**BE CO-OPERATIVE**



**BE RESPONSIBLE**



One of the most important things we can do to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community is to stay at home when we are unwell, even when we have the mildest of symptoms.

## What you need to know

### 1. If a child is unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms, they must stay at home

If a child becomes unwell during the day, they must be collected from school/early childhood education and care (ECEC) as soon as possible.

### 2. If a child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) outlined below, however mild, they should get tested and they must remain at home until they receive their results:

- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste.

In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms.

For further advice:

- call the 24-hour coronavirus (COVID-19) hotline 1800 675 398
- call a general practitioner
- use the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) [online self-assessment tool](#).

Visit: [Where to get tested](#).

### 3. A child must stay at home until they are symptom free, even if their coronavirus (COVID-19) test is negative

If a person has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or been identified as a close contact they must isolate/quarantine until they receive clearance from DHHS.

### Children with persistent symptoms due to underlying conditions such as hay fever or asthma

whose symptoms are clearly typical of their condition can continue to attend ECEC/school. They should be tested for COVID-19 if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms. They should consider getting a medical certificate from their GP to attend ECEC/school if they have persistent symptoms that may overlap with symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

### Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post viral symptoms

such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school/ECEC following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.

For information on the minimum periods students and children need to stay at home for other conditions, refer to the [DHHS school exclusion table](#).

### 4. Children do NOT need a medical certificate before returning to school/ECEC

Once symptoms have cleared, there is no requirement from the Department of Education and Training or DHHS for children/students to have a medical certificate before they return to school/ECEC.

**Thank you for your support in following these steps, together we can all stay safe.**



This advice has been prepared by the Department of Education and Training, Safer Care Victoria and the Department of Health and Human Services