



## **MOUNT BLOWHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL 2037**

### *Family Information Booklet 2021*

*527 Millers Road,*

*Blowhard, 3352*

*Telephone: 53346354*

*Email: [mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au)*

*Dear Parents/Guardians,*

Welcome to Mount Blowhard Primary School. We hope your association with our school will be a happy and productive one. For new families we look forward to getting to know you and your children and for current families we look forward to continuing to work closely and effectively together. We trust that your experiences at our school are positive and rewarding. We believe that by working closely with all our school families we are able to achieve the best educational outcomes for all children, meeting their social, emotional, physical and academic needs.

We hope this booklet provides you with useful information about our school.

Mount Blowhard Primary School is an inclusive and progressive primary school, working hard to provide the best in educational, social, sporting, and extra-curricular opportunities. We are proud of our school and the part we play in our vibrant rural community.

*Robert Walsh*

Acting Principal

Telephone: 53346354

Email: [Robert.walsh@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Robert.walsh@education.vic.gov.au)

## Staff

Acting Principal: Robert Walsh  
Business Manager: Zelma Brugger  
Classroom Teachers: Jonathan Nettelbeck, Laura Box, Zoe Bilton & Jacinta McPherson  
Specialist Teachers: Jane McErlain (Physical Education), Hua Tian (LOTE/Chinese & Art), Annie Bawden & Kathy Norton (Mobile Area Resource Van)

## School Council

School Council President: Liz Charles  
Vice President: Dallas Doolan  
Parent Representatives: Liz Charles, Jason Loader, Catherine Chibnall, Damien McErlain, Kerrie Gallagher, Holly Clark, Dallas Doolan & Emma Morvell.  
Finance Subcommittee: Robert Walsh, Zelma Brugger, Dallas Doolan & Liz Charles

School Council is the governing body of our school and consists of parent and staff representatives. Parents are invited to nominate as a parent representative. Terms are for two years, with the Annual General Meeting held in March each year. If you are interested in standing for School Council, please contact the School Council President or the Principal. Elections are held if the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacant positions. School Council meetings are held monthly. Parents on School Council make a vital contribution to the running of their child's school.

## School learning Sessions:

Session 1: 9am - 11am (Students eat morning snack in classroom just before 11.00am)  
Recess: 11am -11.30am  
Session 2: 11.30am – 1.30pm  
Lunch: 1.30pm -2.30pm (Students eat their lunch in the classroom from 1.30 to 1.40pm)  
Session 3: 2.30pm - 3.30pm

## Before School Supervision:

Parents are strongly encouraged to have students at school from 8.45am onwards. This allows students to have time to complete their morning routine in their classroom and be ready to learn at 9am. Supervision begins strictly at 8.30am where students are required to wait in a designated classroom until 8.45am. We do not offer a before-school supervision/care program.

## School Office Hours:

Our front office is staffed every **Monday** and **Friday**. Parents can email the school at [mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au) at any time and messages will be passed on to the appropriate staff member. Please phone the school on 5334 6354 directly for any urgent matters.

## Term Dates

### 2021

Term 1 28<sup>th</sup> Jan – 1<sup>st</sup> April  
Term 2 19<sup>th</sup> April – 25<sup>th</sup> June  
Term 3 12<sup>th</sup> July – 17<sup>th</sup> September  
Term 4 4<sup>th</sup> October – 17<sup>th</sup> December

### 2022

Term 1 28<sup>th</sup> Jan – 8<sup>th</sup> April  
Term 2 26<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> June  
Term 3 11<sup>th</sup> July – 16<sup>th</sup> September  
Term 4 3<sup>rd</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> December

The dates given above are those that teachers start and finish each term. Each year government schools are provided with four *pupil free* days for professional development, school planning, curriculum planning and assessment and reporting. The first day of Term 1 is a pupil free day in all government schools. The remaining days are determined by individual schools and approved by School Council. This information will be communicated via the school newsletter

## ABSENCES

School attendance is closely linked to student success across all curriculum areas and helps children develop social skills such as teamwork, communication skills and self-esteem as well as building friendships. While sick children need to stay at home, absences should also be kept to a minimum.

We use an automated text messaging system. 0409 321 916 is the Mobile number to text if your child is absent. Parents are required to text the school to let us know if their child will be absent and the reason. Parents are required to inform the school of the reason for a child's absence by 9.30am.

Our school seeks to have all children at school every day and we will assist you at any time should you have issues with getting your child to school. You can tell us ahead of time if you know of a forthcoming absence.

Our school goal is a maximum of 8 days absent per year for each child. At times we may use rewards/special acknowledgement for outstanding attendance. School attendance will be included on each child's school report and communicated to families as required. If your child's attendance is a concern (i.e. absences significantly above the 8 day goal) an Attendance Meeting will be scheduled to develop strategies to improve your child's attendance.

## EARLY COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

If collecting children early, parents should let their child's classroom teacher know in advance if possible. A text sent through the Absences text line is sufficient – 0409 621 916. On days that the office is staffed, please report to the office to collect children. You will need to sign an 'Early Departure' slip.

## ASSEMBLY

Assemblies are held each Friday at 3pm. Parents and visitors are most welcome to attend our assemblies. Year 6 students rotate as assembly leaders. Assemblies may vary slightly from week to week but the content generally includes: birthdays and special events, teachers' announcements, presentation of student work, reflection on the successes and challenges of the past week, student awards and organisation of the coming week. Assemblies play a vital role in building student leadership and also establish and build a positive school culture.

## BUSES

Our school is serviced by one bus, supplied by Littles Coaches. The bus route is set by Public Transport Victoria and routes are planned to collect as many students as possible whilst keeping buses within a school's zone. An application is made to Public Transport Victoria to request a bus route be altered or extended to accommodate new student/s. Buses pick up and drop off from the area in front of the school gym in a safe location separate from other cars and pedestrians.

Bus rolls are marked each journey. Parents may request that their child travel on a bus if they are a non-bus traveller or if they are a bus traveller, to get off at a different stop. That request can be made in writing or verbally to the school office, Principal or classroom teacher. This is recorded on the bus roll.

Students are expected to follow usual school rules when travelling on buses and follow directions from the bus driver, including wearing seatbelts. Students must remain in their seats at all times and behave in a safe and courteous manner. Any concerns about bus travel can be taken to the Principal.

## CAR PARKING, PICK-UP and DROP-OFF

Parents are asked to park at the front of the school on Millers Road using the marked parking bays. Students may not leave the front gate until their parent's car is parked and stationary. Students are not allowed to leave the school gate and cross Millers Road to a parent parked on the opposite side to the school. We ask that parents and adults driving in the vicinity of the school take particular care.

## CHILD SAFE

The Child Safe Standards are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian early childhood services and schools, to ensure they are well prepared to protect children from abuse and neglect. These standards were developed as a result of the Betrayal of Trust report, which came out of the Royal Commission into Child Abuse. Clearly much more should have been done to protect children in the past. Our Child Safe Policy, Child Safe Statement and Child Safe Code of Conduct are all available on our school website and you can view them any time at the school office. There are three important legal requirements that all adults in Victoria should be aware of:

1. **Mandatory Reporting:** All **members of the Victorian teaching service** are required by law to report instances where they believe a child is at risk and in need of protection.
2. **Failure to Disclose:** **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 immediately. This is the law.
3. **Failure to Protect:** Any **staff member in a position of authority (the Principal)**, who becomes aware that an adult associated with their organization poses a risk of sexual abuse to a child under the care, authority or supervision of the organization, must take all reasonable steps to remove or reduce that risk.

Further information is also available as follows:

- Department of Education website: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents)
- Bravehearts website: [www.bravehearts.org.au](http://www.bravehearts.org.au)
- Kids Helpline: 1800 5518 00
- DHHS Child Protection: 1800 075 599
- In an emergency always call 000

It is essential we all have Child Safety as our uppermost priority and that we are all aware of current best practices and legal requirements. If you require further information or have any questions or concerns, please contact our Acting Principal, Robert Walsh.

## COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

### General communication:

Both formal and informal avenues of communication are available for parents and teachers to establish and maintain supportive and co-operative working relationships.

If you wish to discuss specific concerns, pass on confidential information, or ask specific questions, please make a time to see your child's teacher. While it may be convenient to sometimes discuss your child with his or her classroom teacher as you drop off or pick up, these are generally very busy times when teachers may be supervising students, preparing for the day, doing bus or gate duty, or have school meetings. It is also hard to maintain privacy during these informal chats. Unless it is an emergency or the issue is pressing, it is more suitable to make a time to see your child's teacher so they are able to give you their full attention and maintain privacy.

At times classroom teachers will need to send home additional information and permission notes.

We encourage students to be responsible for these notes in the upper years of school. For younger students you may need to check your child's bag/reading pouch for additional notes as required. Notes should be returned by your child to their classroom teacher.

### Parent-Teacher Interviews:

These are generally held twice a year. They are used to share information about student achievements and to set goals, discuss successes and assist with strategies for improvement. If you are unable to attend on the allocated day, please make an alternative time to meet your child's classroom teacher.

## COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

### School Reports:

These are issued to parents in June and December. Students are assessed against the Victorian Curriculum. Based on observations, tests and work samples, teachers make an informed decision as to where a student is working. This corresponds to a dot on the written report, which is then translated to a letter grade. Students working at the expected level score a C, up to 12 months above the expected level a B and more than 12 months above the expected level an A. Students working below the expected level score a D and well below the expected level an E. Students progress at different rates and have different strengths. Students working below the expected level require extra support both at school and at home. Your child's classroom teacher or the Principal can discuss any concerns or questions you have about your child's achievements or progress.

## NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are distributed fortnightly via email, to save printing costs and also to support our environmental focus at MBPS. Newsletters contain updates from the Principal, general school news, student work and a calendar with important upcoming dates. Newsletters are one of our main ways of communicating information to parents and the community so should be read carefully.

Newsletters promote our school in the wider community and are an important way for the community to connect with our school. Please forward the newsletter or pass on email addresses of those individuals or families who might enjoy receiving it. Community notices are welcome and community members can email the school at [mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:mount.blowhard.ps@education.vic.gov.au) to request to have an item added to our newsletter.

## COMMUNITY

Mount Blowhard Primary School is a vital part of the local community, actively participating in local activities and providing regular opportunities for the wider community to visit and be involved in our school, including sporting events, open days, our Art Show, End of Year Concert and special assemblies. Members of the wider community are always welcome at our school.

## PARENTS & FRIENDS

Our wonderful Parents and Friends Committee provides invaluable support to staff and students as well as the wider school community. They develop a fundraising plan each year so that events can be organised in a timely manner and linked to identified school needs. The aim is always to maximize fundraising opportunities, but not to exhaust our school community! Annual events include an Easter Raffle, where families are asked to donate Easter items and sell tickets; a bulb drive; a pie drive; a Bunnings BBQ; running the door at school events such as the End of Year Concert; and a major fundraiser such as the recently held Drive-In Movie Night and an evening event in October. Fundraising activities are used to subsidize the annual swimming program and the bi-annual school play/musical as well as to contribute to improving school resources, facilities and programs.

Parents and Friends reports to School Council and is an avenue for parents to give feedback about school, ask questions, and receive support. Meetings are publicised in the newsletter, and on Facebook. All parents are very welcome to join!

## CONTACT DETAILS

It is essential that the school has parents and guardians current phone numbers and those of your preferred contacts in the case of an emergency. If confidential contact information changes please notify the school immediately. These numbers are very important. If we cannot contact you, we will use your child's emergency contacts.

## COOPERATIVE PLAY

The Prep/1 classroom is open to visitors every Friday from 2.30 - 3pm. Parents, younger siblings and new families are encouraged to visit our school on Friday afternoons to learn and play alongside our younger students. Please contact the school office to confirm that Cooperative Play is on that week as very occasionally something unavoidable may arise.

## EXCURSIONS AND CAMPS

Camps and excursions relate to the school curriculum and also focus on social skills, leadership, organisation and independence. Camps are considered an essential part of the school curriculum and attendance by all students is expected. Senior students participate in a range of camps that may include a Melbourne camp, Beach camp, Cave Hill Creek Outdoor camp and Narmbool camp. The type and length of each camp depends on a range of factors and will be confirmed at the beginning of each school year.

The full details of activities will be sent to parents well before the camp or excursion occurs. All costs related to camps and excursions are borne by parents. In exceptional circumstances, financial assistance may be available. This can be addressed confidentially with the Principal.

The safety and well-being of the student group is to be considered at all times. The school reserves the right to exclude students in the educational excursions and camps programs due to behavioural and safety reasons. This will be discussed fully with the parents and students concerned in a timely manner.

## SCHOOL EVENTS

Our school holds a variety of events across the year that parents and community members are very welcome to attend. Each year we run a Welcome BBQ, Walkathon, Athletics Day, Senior Swimming Sports, Talent Show, Art Show that alternates each year with a whole school Musical, End of Year Concert and Year 6 Graduation.

Theme days, special events and dress-up days may also be held during the school year. Sometimes these involve a gold coin donation to support charities, at other times they are to involve students in community or cultural events. Junior School Council, together with staff, plan these days. Information is communicated via the school newsletter.

## POLICIES

These are developed and reviewed by the Principal, staff and School Council. They guide the general running of the school. A full copy of all school policies is available from the school office and on our school website.

## FACEBOOK

Our school Facebook page is used for promotion, reminders and to provide timely information about school events. It is an open page, which means it can be read by members of the general public. Staff will not reply to comments or questions on the Facebook page, so any queries should always be directed to the school directly. Parents are asked to sign a Media Consent Form at the beginning of each year to seek permission for student photos to be shared on Facebook. Our Social Media Policy sets out expectations for communicating by Facebook. It is important to remember that our Facebook page is for parents, not students, as Facebook has a recommended user age of 13 years and over.

## STUDENT HEALTH

### Illness/Injury:

We encourage 100% attendance at school, but please remember that sick children are best kept at home. We are able to provide for minor injuries or illnesses at school, however school policy is to contact parents if the illness is protracted, the illness could be serious, or if a more serious injury is suffered. Parents are always contacted if a child suffered an injury to their head, neck, face or trunk. If we are unable to contact you we will use the emergency contacts listed so please ensure these are up-to-date.

### Medication:

If medication is to be taken at school, a Medication Form (available from the Office) must be completed and the medication must be handed to your child's classroom teacher. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that the school has an adequate supply of medication for your child. Children are not permitted to self-medicate at any time. The only exceptions are regular monitored medications such as insulin and asthma medications.

## STUDENT HEALTH

### Asthma and Anaphylaxis:

If your child suffers from asthma or anaphylaxis, an Inhaler/Epipen must be provided by parents and kept at the school at all times. Parents are required to consult their child's GP to obtain an asthma or anaphylaxis management plan and a copy of this signed plan must be provided to the school. These plans must be updated every 12 months and a new copy given to the school.

### Head Lice:

Parents are asked to sign a permission form for student's hair to be checked at school. Checking is done in an informal, private and supportive manner so that students are not stigmatised in any way. Head lice are a reality at almost every school. Parents will be contacted if their child requires treatment. Children cannot return to class if they have live head lice and must be collected for treatment at home. Parents are encouraged to consult a chemist for advice and information regarding head lice treatments.

## IMMUNISATION CERTIFICATE

All children enrolling in primary school are required to have an Immunisation Certificate. This can be obtained from your Local Council Health Department. Students can still enrol in schools without being fully immunized, however it is essential that the school is aware of the immunization status of each child in the event of an outbreak of a serious infectious disease.

## SUN SMART

Mount Blowhard Primary School is a Sun Smart school. Students are required to wear broad-brimmed navy blue hats outside in Terms 1 until the end of April, and from the start of September until the end of the school year (generally Terms 1 and 4). If outside activities are planned (e.g. a sports day) during forecast hot/sunny weather in other terms, students may also be required to wear hats.

Sunscreen is available at school although it is not applied to students on a daily basis, unless students are taking part in specific outdoor activities (e.g. outdoor swimming program). Students are required to have their shoulders covered on casual clothes days. Students must wear a rash top when participating in the outdoor swimming program so their back, chest and shoulders are completely protected from the sun.

## FEES

Parents are asked to pay a school charge each year. As a guide, the fee is currently set at \$130 per student. We ask that all parents pay this charge by the end of Term 1. These funds are used to purchase items and materials used directly by your child, including stationery, books, art supplies, photocopies and printing. We do not require parents to purchase a book pack. Items are purchased directly by classroom teachers for their class.

Swimming, camps, and excursions all incur additional charges. Occasionally, fundraising by Parents and Friends or a specific grant may be used to subsidize the cost of these extra-curricular activities. We aim to notify parents of camps and excursions in a timely manner so that parents have ample time to plan for their payment.

## HOUSE GROUPS

We have four school Houses named after local landmarks: Hollowback, Cavern, Coghill and Bolton. Younger siblings are allocated to the same House as older brothers and sisters. Students of each house elect House Captains. Houses are used for grouping students on special theme days and for sporting events. Houses are also an important part of our social program, as younger and older students are grouped together. Younger students get to know older students and friendships are developed across year levels.

## STUDENT LEARNING

Staff at Mount Blowhard Primary School are passionately committed to achieving best practice in teaching literacy and numeracy. We teach the curriculum areas outlined in the Victorian Curriculum below.

LEARNING AREAS	CAPABILITIES
The Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dance</li><li>• Drama</li><li>• Media Arts</li><li>• Music</li><li>• Visual Arts</li><li>• Visual Communication Design</li></ul>	Critical and Creative Thinking Ethical Intercultural Personal and Social
English <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li><li>• English as an Additional Language (EAL)</li></ul>	
Health and Physical Education	
The Humanities <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Civics and Citizenship</li><li>• Economics and Business</li><li>• Geography</li><li>• History</li></ul>	
Languages	
Mathematics	
Science	
Technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Design and Technologies</li><li>• Digital Technologies</li></ul>	

### English:

We offer a strong English program in Years Prep-6. We pride ourselves on using evidence-based approaches to teaching reading and writing. At Mount Blowhard Primary School we use a systematic synthetic phonics program in Years Prep-3. We also teach spelling explicitly from Years 4-6 using the Spelling Mastery program.

### Mathematics:

We offer an explicit, 'hands on' Mathematics program. We focus heavily on core number skills in the early years, which enables our senior students to apply these skills to a wide range of problem solving opportunities.

### Specialist Classes:

Specialist teachers work with students in the areas of Physical Education, the Arts and Languages (Chinese).

### Physical Education:

We provide our students with a comprehensive Physical Education and Sports Program. We aim to inspire students to develop long-term healthy attitudes and habits, improve health and fitness, build gross motor skills, learn team games and strategies and develop important personal and interpersonal skills. Importantly, students learn to value and celebrate their personal efforts and improvement rather than focus on winning.

- Years 4/5/6 have an outdoor swimming program during February at the Clunes Outdoor Pool. The focus of this program is on stroke technique, stamina (i.e. developing the ability to swim over a distance) and water safety knowledge and skills. Prep/1/2/3 students have a shorter program at a private swimming school in Ballarat later in the year. There is an additional charge for swimming programs. They are not covered by the standard annual school charge.
- A comprehensive and fun training program prepares students for our Combined Athletics Day, generally held in the last week of Term 1. We join with other local schools and students move through rotations in age groups. The emphasis is on personal effort, teamwork and enjoyment.
- Zone Athletics for selected students aged 10 and over are held in Term 3. Qualifying students move onto the Regional Athletics in Term 4. We also have a cross country program in Term 2 for students aged 9 and above, culminating in a 2km and 3km run using the track at Lake Learmonth.

- Older students (generally Years 4 – 6) also take part in interschool team competitions. Golf, soccer, AFL and netball (Term 3) and Kanga Cricket (Term 4) are offered to students at school and for selected students at a Zone level. There are also many opportunities for students to be involved in clinics both within school and others run by outside organisations for various sports. We work with other local small schools to enter combined teams where appropriate.

### The Arts:

Our Arts Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves through painting, drawing, modelling, construction, and collage. Students learn to plan, reflect and refine their art work. Students often undertake art activities in conjunction with classroom themes. An Art Show is held every second year, so students can enjoy sharing their work with family, friends and the wider community. We take advantage of opportunities for art excursions and incursions, for example visiting the Ballarat Art Gallery.

Every second year, alternating with the Art Show, is a whole school play/musical. Each classroom participates through whole class songs, with older students filling speaking roles. This gives senior students the opportunity to learn basic drama and stage skills.

### Languages:

Students are currently learning Chinese. Our program covers basic vocabulary, greetings, language and cultural awareness.

### Technologies:

We value the benefits that technology offers and acknowledge the central role technology plays in the wider community, the future work lives of our students and in the daily lives of many students.

Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard, access to iPads and access to laptops. In Years 4/5/6 students learn cyber safety through the Digital Licence program, covering topics such as privacy, keeping safe online and ways to protect against on-line bullying.

### Homework:

Regular homework includes daily home reading and specific Mathematics homework sheets in the senior classroom. Teachers may also send home a range of other activities including phonics cards, spelling words, work to be completed and research for topics being studied in the classroom.

Home reading is absolutely vital. Parents are asked to listen to their child/ren read, talk about what they are reading and model being a reader. Particularly as students get older, providing a range of reading material to match children's interests is essential. This may include visits to your local library. Sustained reading takes practice and although reading is timetabled at school each day, research shows that more time is needed to develop sound reading skills. Your child's class teacher will communicate with you about their specific requirements however we have a whole-school reading target of 200 nights of home reading per year. Staff develop a range of strategies to encourage daily home reading like certificates, recognition at assemblies and rewards for reaching specific total nights of reading.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

Developing leadership skills is essential for all students. Younger students are inspired and learn from older students as they take on a range of leadership opportunities like running assemblies, speaking and performing in public, leading the school, and greeting and thanking guests of the school. Students prepare speeches and present these to the school to stand for various leadership positions including School Captains and House Captains.

Junior School Council and weekly Classroom Meetings are an opportunity for students to have input in the running of our school and to learn about meeting procedure, democratic decision-making, organisation, team work and communication. Students may raise issues of concern, plan school events, suggest new initiatives and solve problems. Student leaders organise and lead weekly assemblies on a rotational basis.

## STUDENT WELLBEING

Our approach to student wellbeing and positive behaviour management at Mount Blowhard Primary School is guided by:

- Our School Rules – Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Honest, Be Positive and Be A Learner
- Our School Values – Respect, Responsibility, Excellence and Kindness

We use the School-Wide Positive Behaviours Program, where positive social behaviours are explicitly taught, modelled and acknowledged.

Bullying behaviour is not tolerated at Mount Blowhard Primary School. We use Life Education sessions, as well as classroom social skills programs.

When required, disciplinary measures will reflect the seriousness of the violation of school rules and general expectations for safe and lawful behaviour. In most cases when a child errs for the first time an explanation of the rules and expectations connected with the behaviour take place. This would constitute a warning. Continued breaches of rules and expectations may result in withdrawal of privileges, withdrawal from class where appropriate supervision can be provided or recess and/or lunchtime detention.

Generally, children who act in a dangerous and/or anti-social way, including refusing to follow teacher instructions will incur an automatic detention. When children demonstrate more serious antisocial, uncooperative or dangerous behaviour, parents will be notified. Logical consequences may include discipline meetings with the child, parents, Principal and/or teacher, detention and finally suspension/expulsion. Any questions about student behaviour or discipline can be directed to the Principal.

## TRANSITION

### Kinder to Prep transition:

Our transition program involves school tours in Term 2 and Term 3, an Information Evening in Term 3, and transition sessions for the coming years Prep students over Terms 3 and 4. Parents are also given the opportunity to meet with the Prep teacher for a one-on-one meeting to discuss their child and ask questions in a more private setting late in Term 4. Feedback from Prep parents confirms that our transition program provides a wonderful gradual introduction to the school routine, with both children and parents supported through this process.

### Year 6 to Year 7 transition:

Students from our school move on to a number of different secondary schools. Your residential address is used to determine the government secondary schools that your child/ren are zoned for. Application forms for government secondary schools are distributed to families in Term 2. These are returned to our school, then parents will receive a letter of offer later in the year. Year 6 students generally have one secondary school transition day in December. At times Year 6 students will need additional support for transition into Year 7. Our school will support students with extra visits and provide secondary schools with additional information as required.

## UNIFORMS

Having all students dressed in uniform means that students see each other as equals, and focus on the person that they are rather than what they are wearing. It minimizes competition between students and allows them to focus on learning and playing together equally and safely. Our school uniform includes the following:

### Girls:

Summer	Navy and white checked dress Maroon polo top (t-shirt) with school logo Navy skort or shorts Maroon polar fleece ½ zip jumper with school logo Maroon round neck windcheater with school logo Navy or white socks Black leather school shoes or runners
Winter	Maroon polo top (long sleeved) with school logo Navy track pants Navy pinafore Maroon polar fleece ½ zip jumper with school logo Maroon round neck windcheater with school logo Navy or white socks or tights Black leather school shoes or runners

## UNIFORMS

### Boys:

Summer	Maroon polo top (t-shirt) with school logo Navy shorts Maroon polar fleece ½ zip jumper with school logo Maroon round neck windcheater with school logo Navy or white socks Black leather school shoes or runners
Winter	Maroon polo top (long sleeved) with school logo Navy track pants Maroon polar fleece ½ zip jumper with school logo Maroon round neck windcheater with school logo Navy or white socks or tights Black leather school shoes or runners

These items are available through Rufcut Clothing. Parents may also purchase uniform items through local retail outlets, as many sell generic school uniforms in our school colours and our logo can be embroidered at Rufcut Clothing.

- **Hair**  
We ask that chin length or longer hair be tied back. This minimizes the chance that head lice can be transferred from one student to another. It is also much safer for PE and the playground. Long hair can accidentally get caught in equipment. Hair ribbons and ties must be maroon, white or navy blue.
- **Footwear**  
Students must wear safe and sensible footwear – generally runners or leather school shoes. Students must have runners for PE lessons.
- **Jewellery**  
Small sleepers or studs may be worn and a watch. Jewellery must be kept to a minimum for safety reasons. Jewellery can get caught on play equipment and is a hazard during sport and PE lessons.
- **Casual Clothes days**  
Casual clothes days occur throughout the year and are usually held by Junior School Council to raise funds for a charitable organisation. Students must wear appropriate clothing. Shoulders must be covered so no singlets or tank tops. Open-toed shoes, thongs or heeled shoes are NOT permitted for safety reasons.

While we have endeavoured to provide information about major school events and programs and any organisational details that parents require, you may at times have questions or need further information. Please ask at the school office or speak to your child's classroom teacher.

*THANK YOU*