Welcome back!
Hello everyone and welcome back to Upwey Primary School for the 2017 school year! I have had a fabu-
ous start to the school year and I would like to thank everyone, students, parents, staff and the local
community for being so welcoming and warm towards me. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first full week
as Acting Principal of our gorgeous school.

It is good to get back into routine after a restful and enjoyable holiday break. I know that it is going to be
fantastic term. I look forward to sharing more information with you all in the coming weeks about our
school priorities and upcoming events!
Welcome back (cont).

It was very exciting to see our new Prep students all settling in so well. There wasn’t a tear to be seen…not even from the parents, which was a testament to the great transition programs that we had last year. Our new Prep students were introduced to our school at a brief assembly on Tuesday afternoon and presented with their ‘First Day’ certificates. Alyssa B., Riley C., Harrison C., Olyvia C., Anna C., Dominic F., Caleb G., Xavier J., Dylan M., Ethan R., and Jace W. are all on their way to settling in and are already becoming familiar with our school under the loving care of their Year One classmates and teacher Mrs Bush.

This year we also welcome new students Tritan C. (Year One), Miles C. (Year Two), Jack P. (Year Four), Miranda C. (Year Six) and Izabella W. (Year Six). I know you will all make them feel welcome.

New Staff

I am excited also to become a part of your wonderful community, replacing Laura during her ‘Family Leave’. I had the opportunity to meet many of you at the End of Year Carol’s night last December. I have also enjoyed chatting and meeting many of you this week. I look forward to getting to know you and your children during my time here. Please feel free to pop by and introduce yourselves!

Parents will have a chance to meet our classroom teachers at our upcoming Welcome BBQ and Information Night on Wednesday 15th February. I encourage you all to come along.

Year Six Leadership Positions

Nominations are now open for the leadership positions below. Presentation speeches will occur on Friday 10th February between 2:30 and 3.00pm pm in the school hall. All children in Year 6 will be expected to take on a leadership role of some type during the year.

Parents are welcome to attend the speeches if available. All Year 1-6 children and staff will vote in a secret ballot at the conclusion of speeches.

School Captain x 2  Library Captain x 2
House Captain x 4  Arts Captain x 2
Sports Captain x 2  Science Captain x 2

Whole School Assemblies

School assemblies will continue to be held on Monday afternoons from 3:00 – 3:30pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

Specialist Lessons

Tuesday: Art/Craft (Mrs Kittredge)
Wednesday: Physical Education – PE (Miss Caddy/ Ms Smart)
Monday P-3, Thursday, 4-6: Japanese (Toshi Takahashi)
Welcome Barbeque and Information Night

Please remember that our Welcome Barbeque and Information Night is coming up on Wednesday 15th February. We will have a BBQ (Sausage Sizzle) at 5.30pm. The ‘Whole School Information’ section of the night will commence in the Library at 6:00pm, followed by individual classroom presentations at 6.30pm (Pre – Year and 7.00pm (Year 4-6:00pm).

As teachers will also be involved in the Presentations in their Year levels, we would appreciate help with both cooking and serving the sausages!

Please note that supervised activities on the oval for the children will not commence until 6.30pm and will conclude at 7.30pm.

House Swimming Sports

Next Tuesday 7th February we will hold our annual ‘House Swimming Sports’ at the Belgrave Pool for Years 3-6 students. Notices went out earlier this week. Please ensure that permission slips and money are returned ASAP. The weather reports are looking positive for the day! Parent helpers would be much appreciated. Please come and see me if you can help out.

School Arrival Time

Parents please lend a hand by ensuring students arrive at school between 8:45am and 8:55am. This allows staff to ensure that all students are well supervised and prepared to start learning time at 9:00am.

Lunch Orders

The Upwey RSL will again continue to operate our school lunch orders. However, we will now be offering students the opportunity to order their lunches on a Monday as well as from Tuesday – Friday. Details of how to order your delicious menu selections are attached to this newsletter.

Homework

In line with our Homework Policy, it is an expectation of our school that students complete set tasks each evening to support their classroom learning program. Homework supports students to develop good study habits whilst also encouraging students to take responsibility for their own learning. The tasks that are set are carefully considered to ensure that they benefit the students and complement their classroom learning. Details on the individual year level expectations will be sent home in a separate letter. Your support in encouraging your child to complete their homework commitments is appreciated.

School Council Elections 2017

The schedule for the 2017 School Council election process is as follows:

Monday 6th February  Announce election schedule and call for nominations.
Friday 10th February  Nominations close. Display list of candidates, nominators and seconders
Friday 17th February  Ballot papers (if required) distributed by this date
Friday 24th February  Close of ballot
Monday 27th February  Count ballots and declare results
Monday 15th March  School Council AGM & School Council Meeting

Current members continuing for their 2nd year are:
Anne Fratini, Ryan Martin, Ben Harris and Lauren Dwyer.

The parent members of the School Council whose period of office has expired are: James Murray (Parent), Stephen Wickenton (Parent), Zdenka Kollarova (Parent), Chris Francis (Parent) and Andrew Gannon (Parent). This makes for a total of four vacant parent positions.

The DET employee member of the School Council whose official period of office has expired is Cindy Nyari (DET). In addition to this we have two vacant DET positions. This makes for a total of three vacant DET positions.

All previous members are eligible to renominate.

Please note that nomination forms for parent and DET employee vacancies will be available on request from the office on Monday. Please contact the school if you would like a nomination form.
**2017 Booklist for students**

We would like to express our thanks for the wonderful response from families for paying or making a payment plan towards the students booklist for 2017. Upwey Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost for Essential Education items that need to be purchased to a minimum. We also try to ensure that the costs are affordable for all parents. If you have difficulty keeping up the payment plan or would like to start a payment plan please contact the office and speak to Cindy or myself.

**Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)**
The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015 for four years and will provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. $125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students. A special consideration eligibility category also exists. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the student. This payment will cover sport and curricular excursions.

CSEF applications open from term one 2017. Please contact the office for the CSEF application form if you have not received one. Please return this form along with a copy of your Health Care Card.

**Staff car park**

A reminder to all parents and carers that there is no parking or drop offs in the morning and afternoon. Our wonderful Crossing lady Cheryl looks after our students every morning and afternoon and finds it very difficult to monitor students walking through the car park with cars coming in and out. We ask that you park in the Church car park or Darling Avenue. We thank you for your understanding.

**Bush Fire Procedures**

February/March is traditionally the peak of the bush fire season and this year is no different. We still have many days that we need to be aware that being in a bush fire prone area, we need to be particularly aware of our bushfire management plan.

It is important to know that as we are in Bush Fire Zone we will be closed on Code Red Days. Please find details of the processes that are followed in this newsletter as outlined by DET. We have a well-planned Emergency Management Plan that is ready to implement should the need arise in the event of any emergency. During February we will be having fire drills with the students so that they are also aware of evacuation procedures should the unforeseen occur.

I look forward to a fabulous Term 1!

Anni Smart
Acting Principal

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**What I like about school...**

Mikayla H. I like drawing pictures.
Alyssa B. I like being outside.
Tyler H. I like learning and playing outside...and playing with my friends.
Dominic F. I like playing outside with my friends. I like my teacher!
Bode P. I like learning and playing with Dominic.
We have 4 Sale at the office

School Hats: $10.50
School Bags: $28.00
Reader bags: $12.00

SAVE THE DATE
Bunnings Sausage sizzle will be held on Sunday 26th December
Notices for helpers will be going out next week. We look forward to your ongoing support in 2017
Our first PA meeting is to held Friday 10th Feb in the staffroom.
We would like to invite all parents and carers who would like to join a very fun team here at UPS, toddlers are most welcome.
Newsletter article:  Bushfire At-Risk Register - Schools

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear dir-

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Regis-

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a ft-

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.  This is to avoid con-

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.

- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days

School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, What can parents do?

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.  Keep in touch with us by reading our newslets-

- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.


For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bush-

fires Information Line on 1800 240 667.
About me

- My favourite animal is a panda, they are SO CUTE
- My eye colour is brown, sort of the same to my hair
- I have an awesome hobby, which is calisthenics. It’s sort of like dancing
- My biggest fear is zombies because they are so scary
- I would say I am very social because I have lots of friends
- I love collecting teddy bears - they are so cuddly
- When I grow up I want to be a beautician
- Who am I????

About Me

: Basketball is my favourite sport.
: Hash browns are my favourite food.
: I love gaming a lot.
: The one fear I have is heights.
: I hate sitting down.
: I’m really afraid of heights.
: Scootering is my passion.
: I love scootering a lot and I’m good at it.
: I am afraid of spiders.
: I’ve broken my wrist before.
: I hate glossy stuff on pages.
: I love drinking Mountain Dew.

Try guessing who I am…
My favourite food is ice cream and it is hunky dory.
I have 1 dog 1 cat and 1 yabby.
My favourite colour is aqua because it is a combination of my favourite colours.
My favourite drink is iced chocolate.
I have one brother one sister, mum, and dad.
I have brown eyes and hair.
I want to be a scientist when I grow up.
I enjoy boogie boarding.
Now can you guess?