



Newsletter

September 2023

And just like that, the first month of the new academic year is done! What a busy time we have had: settling into new class routines, using our neatest handwriting in lots of new books, and getting our brains switched on again after the summer break. There has been a lot of fun as new topics have begun. In this edition of the newsletter you'll read about a Viking workshop, trips to the park and Forest School activities in our school grounds, topic related art and crafts, and how Prep 7 are learning to thrive under pressure thanks to some breathing and relaxation techniques. We have also enjoyed our first whole school event this month, celebrating the wide and varied cultures in our school community during our International Day of Languages celebrations. The foundations have been laid for a super year.

Mrs K Hrabovsky

Dates for your diary

- **w/c 2 Oct:** Swimming lessons begin for Prep 4-6 pupils; change to winter uniform
 - **Tues 2 Oct:** School Photo Day with *Cool for School*
 - **Wed 18 Oct:** Prep 1-7 flu vaccines with School Nursing Team
 - **Wed 25 & Thurs 26 Oct:** Prep 2-6 Parent Consultations (details to follow from class teachers)
 - **Thurs 26 Oct:** IPA Halloween Fair, Inchmarlo Prep grounds from 6pm
- Mon 30 Oct – Fri 3 Nov: Half-Term Break**
- **Mon 6 Nov:** School reopens from 8am, After Hours and extra-curricular activities as normal



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Prep Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons at the Olympia Leisure Centre will be starting from w/c 2 October for the following classes. Pupils should come to School wearing their PE kit on these days.

Prep 4 – Wednesdays

Prep 5 – Thursdays

Prep 6 – Fridays

* Prep 3 & Prep 7 pupils will begin swimming lessons in January 2024.

School Photographs

We are welcoming Cool for School back to the Prep School for our 2023/24 photographs.

This year we will be able to offer sibling photographs during the School day for those pupils with a sister in the Prep School. We also have a family afternoon for anyone who would like to have a whole family photograph, or shots with other siblings from 4pm that same day.

Information has already been shared by Cool for School for you to register your details for all photographs. If you require further information, please contact Mrs. Sloan.



COOL FOR SCHOOL
PHOTOGRAPHY



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Pre-School



All aboard flight VCB – we're heading off to the sunshine!

What a busy time we have been having in pre-school! We have been enjoying our PE lessons, where we have been working on being aware of moving safely in our space and learning positional and directional language. We have had some lovely story times at the library and have been enjoying our forest school sessions. There is currently great interest in creating an aeroplane in our role play corner and we have all been invited on wonderful trips to exotic destinations. We are getting used to listening together as a group when we sit on the mat and have been doing lots of counting songs and rhymes. The Pre-school year is off to a great start!

Prep 1



Our wonderful P1 girls have really settled into the routines of school and the busy school day. They have been enjoying sessions with Nurture in 5, visiting the College Library and engaging in a wide range of learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom. Well done girls, what a great month we have had together!



International Day of Languages

There's nothing like a dress-up day at the start of term to banish the back-to-school blues! On Tuesday 26 September, Prep marked the European Day of Languages by going global and celebrating all the countries and cultures represented in School.

As well as donning costumes, the classes all participated in some special in-class activities with some making French crepes, other participating in a Greek Olympics, and some trying their hand at German folk-dancing. Pupils also shared some memories from their travels as they talked about objects brought in from another country.

It was a wonderful way to mark the end of our first month in School and great to see so many pupils (and staff!) really getting into the spirit. Thank you to Mrs Burnett, our Primary Languages Coordinator for organising such a special day.





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Prep 2

Prep 2 have been very busy learning both inside and outside the classroom. In our outdoor learning, the girls have explored the Victoria College grounds and enjoyed a visit to Drumglass Park last week. At the Park, they looked for signs of Autumn and enjoyed playing in the Play Park.

In class, the girls have enjoyed learning about Australia as part of our World Around Us topic. They have packed suitcases for hot and cold countries, identified what information is needed on a passport during Big Write, explored what happens at the airport and learnt about some of the famous Australian landmarks.



Prep 3

Prep 3 have had a very special "Teacher" in class – their new Roots of Empathy family, Ms Larmour and baby Celeste. The girls were delighted to meet the special person who will be guiding their learning across the 9 themes of the programme. Celeste was wonderful: wearing her special uniform (a Roots of Empathy t-shirt), she smiled and made eye contact with everyone as we sang our welcome song, showed her developing core strength on the roller, and felt so relaxed in the classroom that she took a little nap! We are really looking forward to seeing her grow and develop over her time with us.



Prep 4



Prep 4 have made a wonderful start to the year and have been enjoying researching lots of facts and new information in our topic, *Journeys and Transport*. We have been learning about continents, oceans, countries and different landmarks around the world. We had a go drawing our very own Eiffel Tower and then recreated a firework display in the background. We are also learning about traditional art from different countries and cultures and really enjoyed making our own African inspired necklaces using different patterns and bright colours.



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Prep 5

This half term in Prep 5, we are studying the changes which have taken place in history and our environment. To start with, we have completed research on the history of our school and explored how Mrs Margaret Byers founded Victoria College.

We have discovered that there have been many changes in school life including uniforms, curriculum and behaviour management to name a few! The girls studied our school crest and after discussing all the modern learning opportunities they enjoy today, they created their own colourful crests, showcasing our school.



Prep 6

Prep 6 enjoyed a Vikings workshop with Rita Cauldwell on Friday 15 September. The morning started with time to explore some Viking artefacts, opportunities to try grinding corn by hand and building a willow fence, playing a Viking board game, and using runes to solve a hidden message. However, the most popular station was the Viking dress-up area – the girls looked very fierce in their battle wear!

After lunch, Prep 6 made some spears before heading to the hall for a sword fight! They learnt various attack and defence stances before facing the drill sergeant. It was a fun way to start our World Around Us topic learning and really helped bring this area of history to life.



Prep 7



P7 have been working very hard on their transfer curriculum and class work this term. They have diligently been completing regular practice papers and developing their exam techniques. They have also been learning how to 'excel under pressure' by investigating a variety of ways to manage their emotions. Carlos, from HiP Psychology, delivered a fun interactive workshop teaching us how to stay calm and positive even when things feel overwhelming or challenging. They learnt that although difficult times may present themselves, there are strategies to help manage those feelings. It was a very beneficial session for both the girls and the Prep 7 staff!



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Action Groups for this School Year

School Council

Prep 1: Isla Shorten & Sophie Rogan

Prep 2: Alhanouf Alsobann & Lola Harrington

Prep 3: Bella Hagan & Rosie Stewart

Prep 4: Lucy Ward & Rosa Beggs

Prep 5: Heidi Larmour-Wheeler & Coco Harrison Conlon

Prep 6: Ruby Logan & Isla Traub

Prep 7: Frankie Hodgson & Amber Jackson



ECO Team

Prep 1: Erin Beggs & Anna Stewart

Prep 2: Amy Pollock & Charlotte Orr

Prep 3: Lily Mann, Muyang Wang & Jasmine Nambe

Prep 4: Eva Millar & Lina Elbaroni

Prep 5: Sara Maguire & Jessica Maxwell

Prep 6: Martha Moore & Ariana Rasulzadehgan

Prep 7: Catherine Stewart & Eryn O'Shea





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School Nutritional Action Group (SNAG)

Prep 1: Imogen Hagan & Elizabeth Healy

Prep 2: Pippa Acheson & Hibag Fadil Ahmed

Prep 3: Elle Orange-Thompson

Prep 4: Isla Porter & Charlotte Agnew

Prep 5: Tara Fouladjoush & April Donachie

Prep 6: Willow Steen & Susannah McCartney

Prep 7: Aimee McSparran & Lucille Rendo



Community Action Group (CAG)

Prep 1: Ophelia Osborne & Aria Harper

Prep 2: Zoe Kennedy & Esmé McClean

Prep 3: Katie Boyd & Caitlin Lowry

Prep 4: Savanna Harrison-Beirne & Alice Carter

Prep 5: Aoife Donnelly & Zoe Meenan

Prep 6: Sophia Johnston & Megan Wells

Prep 7: Eva McElnea & Daisy Coggins





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International Action Group (IAG)

Prep 1: Emily Martin & Maisie McCallum

Prep 2: Rose Corry & Niamh Hagan

Prep 3: Jiya Lee and Victoria Fullerton

Prep 4: Elma Barnett & Gigi Harrison-Conlon

Prep 5: Grace Kearley & Charlotte Stockdale

Prep 6: Sofia Darlys-McCaffrey & Vaila Calixto

Prep 7: Georgia Johnston & Eryn O'Shea



Fair Trade

Prep 4: Savanna Harrison-Beirne & Alice Carter

Prep 5: Aoife Donnelly & Zoe Meenan

Prep 6: Sophia Johnston & Megan Wells

Prep 7: Eva McElnea & Daisy Coggins





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Welcome Team

- Prep 1: Alanna Miller & Aria Overo
- Prep 2: Katie Morrison & Pippa Donaldson
- Prep 3: Olivia Cunningham & Anna Enosken
- Prep 4: Alexander Clerkin & Abigail Johnston
- Prep 5: Polly Coggins & Ella Savage
- Prep 6: Greta Hodgson & Rachel O'Sullivan
- Prep 7: Amalia Elliott & Emily Cunningham



iTeam

- Prep 5: Zoe Campbell & Josephine Fulton
- Prep 6: Georgia Hamilton, Eva Lazenbatt & Sylvie Leyburn
- Prep 7: Tori Gilliland & Mila Fitzpatrick





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Prep House Captains for 2023-2024

Congratulations to our new Prep House Captains

Crescent

Captain:

Emily Cunningham

Vice:

Mariam Abdelfattah

Howard

Captain:

Holly McGrath

Vice:

Kitty Osborne

Marlborough

Captain:

Catherine Stewart

Vice:

Amber Jackson

Packenham

Captain: Holly Ingram

Vice: Anna Ingram

Richmond

Captain: Cara Savage

Vice: Georgia Johnston

Wellington

Captain: Tori Gilliland

Vice: Anna Ward

