

'Our commitment to Child Safety'

Grovedale Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. This will be the primary focus of our care and decisionmaking. Grovedale Primary School has zero tolerance for child abuse.

Grovedale Primary School is committed to providing a child safe environment where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability. Every person involved in Grovedale Primary School has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all children and young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.

Dear Families,

I visited the prep rooms last week to find our students learning their sounds – m, a and t – as though they had been at school for months. Congratulations to the Prep staff team who prepared for these students so well, the families who made sure children were as ready as possible, and the children themselves who have been such eager learners! It is wonderful to see such settled classes so early in the year.



2024 School Council

Thank you to our community and staff for participating in the nomination process for the 2024 School Council. As we had an equal number of nominations to vacancies, we did not require a ballot therefore I can confirm the School Council membership for 2024:

Parent Members: Ben O'Connor, Jana Bellinger, Michelle Walker, James Seery, Ashleigh Carpenter and Tess Sinnott

School Employee Members: Kate Saunders, Kathee Kelleher-Jones

Executive Officer: Tina Barnett

I'd like to thank outgoing Councillors, Erin Jewell and Mark Blake. Both have had an enormous impact during their time as members and have been highly valued by us.

Getting to know you interviews

Thank you to all who attended our meetings last week. There was very positive feedback from staff and families around this opportunity to meet each other and commence our relationships as teacher and family. This first meeting isn't intended as a 'reporting' meeting as the teachers haven't had your children for long. The intention is to help us learn more about your child, and to connect and build community, which it certainly did.

If you need to talk to the teacher about your child's wellbeing or progress, you can do that at any time throughout the year by making an appointment. This isn't limited to the formal opportunities offered twice yearly.

COMING EVENTS—also on Sentral Calendar

LUNCH ORDERS—EACH TUES & FRI				
Order by 8am Tues and 8am for Friday				
Feb 2024				
Fri 23rd	SCHOOL PHOTO DAY			
Fri 23rd	Assembly—starts at 2.50pm			
Wed 28th	No Preps –Last Assessment Day			
Wed 28th— Fri 1st March	5/6 Camp at CYC in Melbourne			
March 2024				
Fri 1st Mar	5/6 return from camp			
Fri 1st Mar	Foundation Level— Responsible Pet Ownership Incursion			
Mon 4th	Foundation Level—Geelong Advertiser Photo			
Wed 6th	Newsletter published			
Fri 8th	Assembly—starts at 2.50pm			
Mon 11th	PUBLIC HOLIDAY—LABOUR DAY			
Tues 12th	Divisional Swimming—Selected students only			
Wed 20th	Newsletter Published			
Thurs 21st	HARMONY DAY			
Fri 22nd	Assembly			
Fri 22nd	Ride to School Day			
Thurs 28th	School Cross Country			
Thurs 28th	Easter Raffle Drawn at a special Assembly 2.10pm			
Thurs 28th	LAST DAY TERM 4—2.30PM FINISH			
APRIL 2024				
15th—19th	Foundation Level—Nurse Visit			
Mon 15th	Start of Term 2			

We believe communication with families should be ongoing and regular so please don't hesitate to reach out if you have concerns or relevant information about your child that would help us to ensure their needs are met.

I hope you've enjoyed the warmth, and you have a terrific weekend.

Tina

Annual privacy reminder for our school community

The School's Privacy Policy informs the school community that information about students can be shared to fulfil the schools' core functions of educating and supporting our students.

The Schools' privacy policy establishes a clarified 'need to know' framework, where school staff share information about students with other staff who need to know as part of their role. This is consistent with Victorian privacy law

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the <u>Schools' Privacy Policy</u> and the <u>Schools' Privacy Collection</u> Notice.

For more information about privacy, refer to: <u>Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents</u>. This information is also available in ten community languages:

- * Amharic
- * Gujarati
- * Sudanese
- * Vietnamese

MOBILE PHONES AT SCHOOL

A reminder that the Department of Education has in place a mobile phone ban that requires students who bring mobiles phones to school to have them switched off and securely put away during school hours.

The department is requiring all schools to ensure this ban is in place and enforced from the start of the 2024 school year. The ban applies equally to all government schools right across the state.

This helps ensure that school is a learning environment free from unnecessary distractions and disruptions.

By ensuring mobile phones are kept away at recess and lunch times, students can interact with each other face-to-face, without the distractions and social pressures that mobile phones can cause.

I ask for the support of all our families, staff and students in continuing to support the implementation of this policy in our school.

Exceptions: For a small number of students with particular health needs, an exception to the policy may be granted. Please contact me if you would like to discuss this.

Emergencies: In the event of an emergency or if you need to immediately contact your child, I ask that families contact the school office who will pass on a message as required.

School mobile phone policy: A copy of our school's local mobile phone policy, which implements the government's mobile policy in line with our local context, is available <u>here</u>. (if you cannot get the link, it is on the school's website) **Parent support:** The Mobile phones in schools webpage provides links to resources for families to help them balance their children's time using mobile phones.

If you have further questions, please contact the administration office.

Regards, Tina Barnett

* Arabic * Mandarin

* Turkish

* Dari * Somali * Urdu

Grovedale Primary School is a Sun Smart School.

Being outdoors in Victoria means we're exposed to some of the harshest and most dangerous levels of ultraviolet radiation (UV) in the world.

Please remember that your children will need their hats to be able to play outside without any cover.



SCHOOL BEANIES—

School beanies can be purchased. Forms have been sent via Sentral (check the Resource tab in the App)

and there are hard copies in the office. \$20—can be paid via EFT, Cash or BPay.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist <u>eligible families</u> to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

****If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF.** A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

• \$150 for primary school students

HOW TO APPLY for NEW STUDENTS (even if you are an existing family) or CHANGED FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below. If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you are eligible, you only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed to Grovedale PS this year.
- changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year (eg: This includes an existing family who has a **NEW** student starting at Grovedale Primary School)

Check with the school office if you are unsure if you have completed a CSEF form or if we have applied on your behalf due to the fact that you received the funding in 2023. More information can be found at this link:

https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/guidance/submitting-application

Health Update for our GPS community

Good afternoon GPS families

- This is a timely reminder to be vigilant with cold/flu symptoms.
- Whilst school attendance is critically important, this does not include unwell children.

To minimise the spread of sickness in our school please do not send your child to school if they have any cold/flu symptoms.

Department of Education & Training – Management of Covid-19 in schools

It is recommended that staff members, students or visitors who have symptoms of cold, influenza or COVID-19 undergo testing for COVID-19.

Parents of symptomatic students will be asked to collect their child from school and keep them home until they are no longer symptomatic.

Students should not attend school until their symptoms resolve.

Most people are still infectious after 5 days and you should stay home if you are still experiencing symptoms like a runny nose, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, or sweats.

A negative RAT result is a helpful tool to determine whether you are still infectious. If you're unsure about ending your isolation, you should contact a GP or a GP Respiratory Clinic.

At school we will continue to use strong hygiene measures including sanitising, handwashing, air filters, open doors and supporting those students who wish to wear a mask.

SAFE TO SCHOOL—

Parking Safety Reminder

While there has been improvement in the speeds we are seeing from local traffic due to the Bailey St/Marshalltown Road intersection, we are still seeing considerable illegal and unsafe parking practices.

Please park only in legal parking bays, to allow the School Crossing Guard to have full visibility of the road in both directions.

Also, please do not park in NIDO's carpark if you are not collecting a child form the centre, this is not public parking and causes issues for families who are trying to pick up toddlers.

Please arrive earlier for collection if you need to be close to the gates, or park further away and walk up to the meeting point you have set up with your child.

As always, our aim is not to inconvenience families, but to keep children safe, and your assistance in this is both necessary and deeply appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW TO KEEP YOUR IGA DOCKETS FOR OUR SCHOOL FUNDRAISER????



IGA GROVEDALE EAST—Dockets Marshalltown Road.

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Remember if you shop at IGA in Marshalltown Road, to bring your IGA dockets in regularly—there is a box in the office to place them into. We must have all dockets for the month in by the 15th of the following month.

Example: Please send all of your February dockets in by the 14th of March. We have to have them to IGA on the 15th of each month. Keep collecting!

A huge Thank You to IGA for your ongoing support and sponsorship of the school. Thank You IGA!!

FOMO? You're missing the road when looking at your phone for 2 seconds



School Photos 2024 – Grovedale Primary School

Annual school photos including sibling photos will be taken by Arthur Reed Photos on Friday 23rd February 2024.

There is no need to return any forms or money to school. You register ONLY when you receive your child's unique code that Arthur Reed give to them on or after the photo day.

Unique image codes will be issued to all students on/after photo day so families can register online to view images when they become available in the webshop.

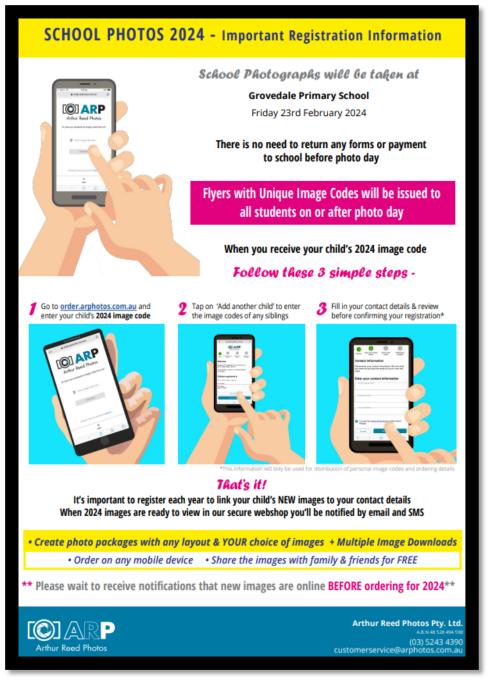
Registration is simple, just follow the 3 simple steps on your child's personalised flyer once you receive it and remember to add the codes for all your children attending this school.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do again this year using your child's 2024 image code to link their images for the current year with your contact details.

When images are ready to view and in the webshop, all parents who have registered will be notified by SMS and email.

Once registered, please wait for notification that 2024 images are online to view before making your purchase.

The below registration process has also been sent out on a SENTRAL message.



STUDENT AWARDS	<u>S:</u>	
Roman B	FR	For always listening carefully and following instructions.
Charlotte J	FR	For always listening carefully and being such a brave learner.
Hailey R	FP	For always presenting her work neat and organised.
Hudson B	FP	For participating in the classroom discussions.
Maia G	FS	For looking at the speaker and listening carefully. You're off to an amazing start, keep up the great work Maia!
Henry S	FS	For staying focused on your work and following instructions both in and out of the class room. You're a star, well done Henry!
Jack G	12A	For always being an active and attentive listener.
Aleyna G	12A	For going above and beyond with her work and finding ways to challenge herself.
Fizza F	12C	For staying focused and completing your work to a high standard
Luke A	12C	For always giving your attention to the person speaking.
Jackson F	12T	For showing great improvement within his work and staying focused.
Lily H	12T	For looking at the speaker and listening carefully to instructions.
Axel Mc	12W	For always listening to and following instructions when completing work independently.
Olivia W	12W	For always participating in whole class discussions.
Jett R	34B	For being focused and applying effort to all learning tasks. Well done on a great start to the year Jett!
Asha B	34B	For putting great effort into the content and quality of her work. Well done on a great start Asha!
Aishveen K	34D	For working cooperatively with others and taking risks with her learning.
Tayer K	34D	For being a learner by following instructions and always trying her best.
Harry B	34F	For always showing respect during all activities and floor time.
Zac P	34F	For always tyring his best in all activities.
Pippa M	34R	For an excellent attitude towards your learning. You set a great example for your classmates.
Zachary F	34R	For participating in all learning tasks and giving them your best effort.
Toby B	56B	For consistently staying focused and ensuring he follows instructions carefully.
Abigail B	56B	For being an active listener to make sure that she can always follow instructions and complete her work to a high standard.
Emily Mc	56M	For giving herself the best opportunity to learn by listening to instructions, focusing on the speaker and considering where she sits on the floor to minimize distractions
Rushil P	56M	For his dedication to his learning by challenging himself in class and always giving his best effort. Awesome effort.
Cooper C	56N	For staying engaged and focused on set tasks and striving to achieve his best in all learning areas.
Jasmine H	56N	For listening carefully to instructions and applying effort to all learning tasks.
Hayden C	56W	For being an active learner and listening carefully to everyone's ideas.
Jill R	56W	For always being ready for learning and respectfully listening to others.
PRINCIPAL AWARE	<u>DS:</u>	
Emily S	56	For exemplifying the school values in every aspect of her school life and challenging herself in her environment team role this year.
Katie S	34	For always following instructions quickly and quietly. Well done Katie on being a superstar learner.
Conall C	12	For always staying focused, following instructions and producing great work.
Gracie G	Prep	For listening carefully to teacher instructions and trying her best with tasks. Well done Gracie!



Snapshots of Grade 6 descriptive writing on the Swimming Carnival

"Ready, set, go" came the booming voice of Mr Shiell. I kicked off the wall swimming as hard as I could. I felt like this was my year to win it. I was half way there...almost there,,, Yes! I made it. First!

By Lily P 56M

The water was still and sparkling and so clear that you could see the bottom of the pool like there was no water in it. The grade six's hearts were racing as we lined up in the cold breeze. We stepped into the cold water and swam over to start the race against the teachers. 3, 2, 1.....GO! You could hear the crowd cheering. By Emily Str 56M

Splash! I feel the water gush through my bathers. I kept making sure I was scooping the water as hard as I could swimming. When Rushil tapped my hand I wooshed with speed to get to Sharla. I could feel the air pushing against my hair. After every year 6 went we had a giggling loss. We had the best start to the year. By Jaydyn K 56M

As we got in the water, Mr Blake told us the rules. Putting his whistle up to his mouth.....'Phreeeet', his whistle went and I was off. 'Swim, Swim, Swim' I thought to myself holding my breath. I put my head up gasping for air and continued. 'I'm third!'

By Emily Sm 56M

The swimming carnival was so much fun. What a shame 'cause now we are done. Wait a second.... That was my last one! Oh, how I'll miss all the fun.

I wish that it didn't end.

All the splashing and laughing hanging with friends.

In the big race (6's verse teachers) teachers were first to the end. We were still happy and proud and congratulated them.

Now that the 2024 Grovedale school swimming carnival is through. I hope next year you'll have as much fun as I always do.

By Izzy D 5/6N

Ack! I forgot how cold the water was! My fellow 6s jostled around me as we headed toward our positions. I shook out my hands and hopped from

Swimmi ildren swimmin Children playing ovedale primary school all having fun Children racing Children beating Having fun cheering for others Children splashing Children diving Tagging other kids as they Children losing Teachers winning Oh what a shame maybe next year. Children munching Children licking Sausages and icy poles are very well deserved. By Jasmine H 56N

foot to foot as I adjusted to the temperature. All of my nervous and excited energy was bubbling inside of me and I was beginning to become impatient. I really wanted to get the race started already and get it over and done with. Finally, we were all ready and then- "Ready, set, GO!" Our first swimmer exploded off the edge of the pool. The race had begun.

We all whooped and cheered ourselves hoarse as each of our friends was tagged. BAM! My hand was slapped, and I swam as though my life depended on it! My arms and legs pumped furiously and soon, I was tagging the next person, then going to the edge of the pool with the other Grade 6s who had already swum their part. I was completely outraged that the younger year levels were cheering for the teachers! I was not happy.

Closer, closer, noooo! The teachers had won! Let me tell you that we were a split-second behind Mr. Waldron when his fingers touched the edge of the pool. We were practically tied, but Mr. Waldron's hand got there first.

As we clambered out and high-fived the teachers, I felt happy and proud of myself and the other Grade 6s. It was the first and the best Swimming Carnival of my life! By Matina Kamsonny 5/6N





Entertainment Ideas

Every order placed via the QR code or ordering online directly deposits 20% into your school's fundraising account.

It was a great shared experience!



5/6M and Prep P had another great shared library. This week, one of our year 5 students read to everyone!

Gardening club is underway and students are learning about propagating. Last week they potted up some mint cuttings which they will care for over the coming weeks.



Miss P would like you to meet Joel, one of 2024 Foundation Level students.

Our Foundation children are settling into their new school routine well.





JOIN VillageOSHC FOR A NEW VillageOSHC YEAR OF SUPER FUN OSHC! 2024 BC 14 GS OPEN AT Villa

LOST PROPERTY—ALL **ITEMS AT THE FRONT** OFFICE

Please don't forget to name your child's school garments so we can return them when they leave them lying around the school.

PLEASE ENSURE ALL SCHOOL **UNIFORM IS NAMED, SO THEY CAN BE RETURNED TO THE OWNER.**





How to Enrol (for free) and Book

VillageOSHC is a new provider at the school. Therefore, you must enrol your child at VillageOSHC in order to book into Before or After School Care. To enrol, visit villageOSHC.com.au and click Book Now. You will be directed to our booking platform, villageoshc.lookedafter.com. Click Login/Enrol in the top right corner and follow the prompts. After you've enrolled your child, you can book your sessions.

Operating Days, Hours and Fees			
Before School Care	After School Care		
Monday - Friday	Monday - Friday		
7:00am - 8:45am	3:15pm - 6:00pm		
Session Fee: \$19.95	Session Fee: \$25.95		

Book 24 hours in advance to receive the permanant rate. Bookings made within 24 hours receive the casual rate. Cancel free of charge, 24 hours in advance

Enrol and book today for the start of Term 4!

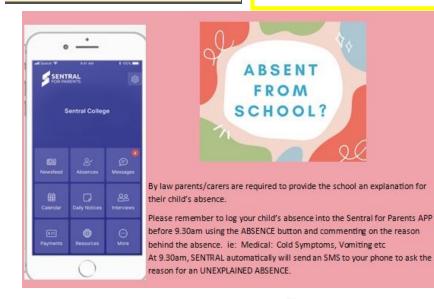
HATS

We are a SunSmart school. Hats need to be worn from September to the end of April 2024.

Please make sure your child is wearing a wide brimmed hat from this date, otherwise they will only be able to play in areas of shade.

Bellarine Uniforms will have more sizes if you prefer to have a logo on the hat or try Kmart or Best n Less.

PLEASE ENSURE THE HAT IS NAMED SO WE CAN RE-TURN IT WHEN IT IS LOST IN THE YARD.









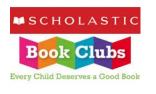
Book now at VillageOSHC.com.au!

SCHOLASTIC

Welcome back to another year of Scholastic books at Grovedale Primary. For those new to our school this year, Scholastic offers an easy way of purchasing wonderful books for your children at great prices, and at the same time supporting the school. We receive 15% of your orders back to purchase books for the library and classrooms.

Issue 1 orders have been received by the school however our Librarian has been ill this week and will do her best to get them to families on Wed 28th Feb .

A reminder that the school office takes no money for book club, all orders are processed online using the LOOP payment portal (instructions in the catalogue). Thanks again for your support.



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The **ZONES** of Regulation[™]

BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	
GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	
YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	
RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Elated/Ecstatic Devastated Out of Control	

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