



CHRISTMAS HILLS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHERE LEARNING IS AN ADVENTURE

## From the Principal Maria

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of Term 1 and can I say - what a term it has been??!! Full of new experiences, learning and fun times had by not only the students but staff as well! The children have all had a smooth start to the year and it has been an absolute delight to see how settled they have been and how much they love being at school!! Our staff are AMAZING and I would like to acknowledge and thank them for all the work they do to support children and ensure they feel a sense of belonging.

## SENSORY GARDEN – INCLUSIVE SCHOOL FUND PROJECT

Our project is definitely taking shape now with the sandpit completed (and made larger), the tepee assembled and the sensory board placed. Planting of trees and shrubs is happening at the moment and we will also be getting some extra features as part of the contingency funds which is very exciting. The crew will be working over the school holidays to complete and handover is scheduled the first week back from holidays.

## HOME READING

Our Home Reading program has been received well and we thank you for your support with ensuring your child/children are practicing their reading every night, and bringing back their folders so that they are changing books regularly. This week we have included a laminated copy of the Oxford Word list in their reading folders. These words are sight words which children will see frequently in written material. We encourage you to work through the list at your own pace to help build sight recognition of these words. Please incorporate as part of your daily home reading routine to help develop important reading skills.

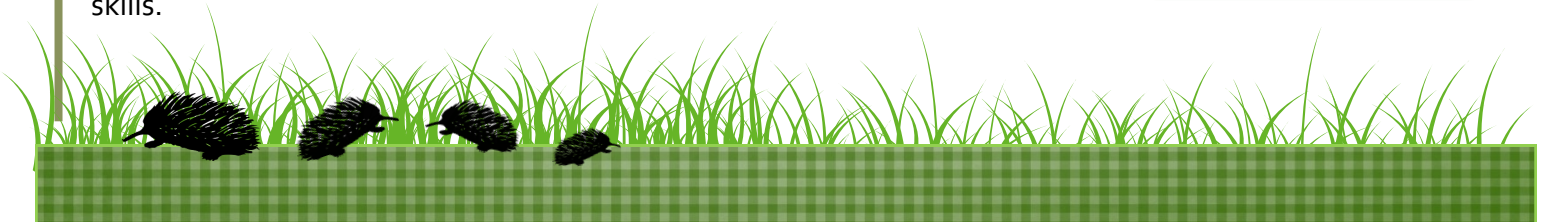
## Term One 28th February, 2024

### Important Dates for Term 2

- 15th April - First day of Term 2
- 23rd April - Curriculum Day
- 24th April - Anzac Public holiday
- 28th June - Last day of Term 2

### Term Dates

- Term 1 - 29th January - 28th March
- Term 2 - 15th April - 28th June
- Term 3 - 15th July - 20th September
- Term 4 - October 7th - 20th December



## SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM Monday 15th April (Term 2 – Week 1)




We will be having our School Council AGM first week after holidays. Thank you to Jacqui and Georgette for their tremendous efforts on council last year. They have done an incredible job supporting the school in their roles.

## CURRICULUM DAY Wednesday 24th April (Term 2 – Week 2)

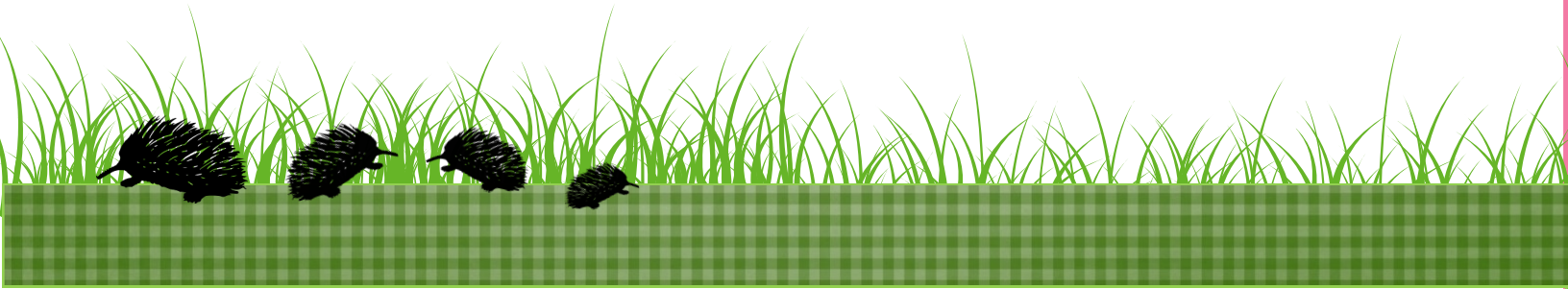
We will be having our Curriculum Day before the ANZAC Day public holiday in week 2. All staff will be participating in professional learning which will take place at St Andrews Primary School. The focus will continue to be on the Berry Street Education Model (BSEM) where we will learn about a range of classroom-based strategies to support and engage students, including those with complex needs. These days are always extremely valuable and also allow us to network with other schools to build on our own professional learning. If you require OSHC on this day please contact St Andrews Primary School (STAPS) on their mobile: 042 7245 921. Also, STAPS will be providing a school holiday program – please see flyer included. Please contact the school for more information.

## GYMNASTICS

Our gymnastics program will commence week 1 after the holidays and will take place at Jets Gymnastics in Diamond Creek. Our session will run from 2.00-3.00pm every Tuesday. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to participate in a program that builds strength, balance, coordination and agility. We will travel by vehicle to the venue and return to school at the end of the day.

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?		
Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.
If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6 <sup>th</sup> grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 schooldays, and Student C will have read for 3.		
WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.		

Thank you to a wonderful parent community and I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

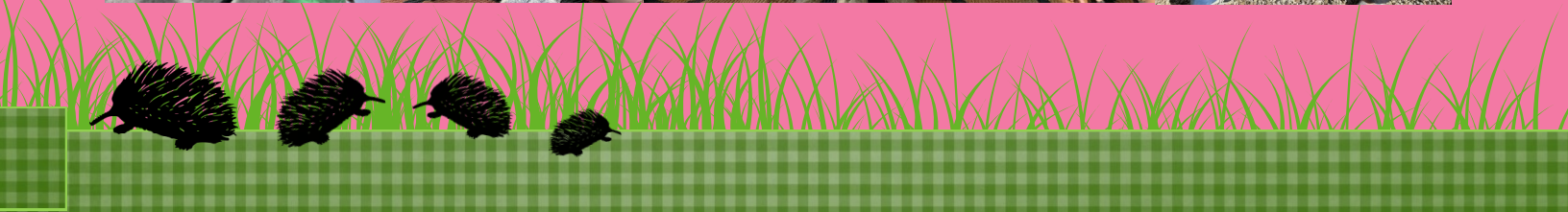




# OUR WEEK

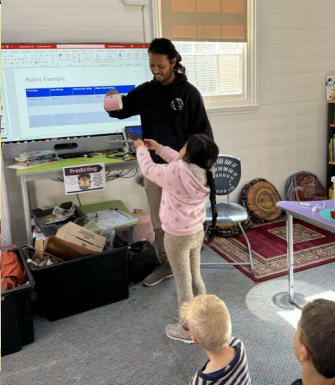


## AT C.H.P.S





# OUR WEEK AT C.H.P.S





# CHRISTMAS HILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL



CELEBRATING

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Saturday 26th October

10:00am - 2:00pm

1409 Eltham Yarra Glen Road, Christmas Hills

Come and join in the free activities including live music and entertainment for families,  
as we celebrate the 150 year anniversary of  
Christmas Hills Primary School



Call us to arrange a tour  
9730 1238  
0499 205 083

1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Rd,  
Christmas Hills, Vic 3775  
[Christmas.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Christmas.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

# CHRISTMAS HILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL **PLAYGROUP**

9:30am - 11:00am  
Every Tuesday morning



**EVERYONE  
WELCOME**

Playgroup will be held in the  
Christmas Hills  
Primary School Library  
9730 1238  
1409 Eltham Yarra Glen Road  
Christmas Hills





# JOIN THE FUN IN 2024!



**NAB AFL Auskick** is for everyone and offers an inclusive environment for ALL boys & girls aged 4 to 9 years at any skill level to play & have fun!

Clinics held on **Saturday mornings from 9.30am - 10:30am** at Warrandyte Reserve from **4 MAY FOR 14 SESSIONS FOR A TOTAL OF \$99**. For more information please contact Kane or Beck - your Auskick Co-Ordinators email: [warrandyteauskick@gmail.com](mailto:warrandyteauskick@gmail.com)



**WJFC** is the perfect place to create long lasting friendships, develop footy skills & maintain fitness. Rules are modified for younger age groups with zoning & no tackling, it's a terrific way to experience team sport!

Games are held on Sundays throughout the YJFL catchment area during terms 2 & 3.

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW: U8-U10 \$220, U11-YOUTH \$290**

For more information please contact email: [secretary@warrandytejfc.org](mailto:secretary@warrandytejfc.org)

REGISTER  
FOR AUSKICK  
SCAN HERE



REGISTER  
FOR WJFC  
SCAN HERE



## GIRLS GALA DAY!

**Monday 18 March – 4.45pm to 5.45pm**

For more information please contact email: [secretary@warrandytejfc.org](mailto:secretary@warrandytejfc.org)

REGISTER FOR  
GALA DAY  
SCAN HERE



## NEW PLAYERS WELCOME - FREE UNIFORM FOR NEW U8, U9 + U10s

For more information regarding **Auskick** or **WJFC** please use email contacts below:

Auskick: [warrandyteauskick@gmail.com](mailto:warrandyteauskick@gmail.com)

WJFC: [secretary@warrandytejfc.org](mailto:secretary@warrandytejfc.org) or [www.warrandytejfc.org](http://www.warrandytejfc.org)

Warrandyte Reserve - Corner Heidelberg-Warrandyte Rd & Taroona Avenue



THE

# DARK HORSE



## CHPS LUNCH ORDER MENU

**Nuggets & Chips \$7**  
**Burger & Chips \$7**  
**Napolitana Pasta \$7**  
**Chips \$4**  
**Party Sausage Roll \$2**  
**Party Pie \$2**

**Chocolate Milk \$3**  
**Strawberry Milk \$3**  
**Orange Juice \$2.5**  
**Apple Juice \$2.5**

**Zooper Dooper \$2**

***LUNCH ORDERS EVERY WEDNESDAY***

***PLEASE WRITE YOUR ORDER AND CHILD'S NAME ON A BROWN PAPER BAG AND  
ENCLOSE CORRECT MONEY.***

***LUNCH ORDERS ARE DUE TO THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN 3:30PM TUESDAYS***



Call us to arrange a tour  
9730 1238  
0499 205 083

1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Rd,  
Christmas Hills, Vic 3775  
[Christmas.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Christmas.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au)



# Being SunSmart in Victoria



When **UV** is **3+**



**Slip** on covering clothing



**Slop** on SPF50,  
broad-spectrum,  
water-resistant sunscreen



**Slap** on a broad-brimmed hat



**Seek** shade



**Slide** on sunglasses (AS:1067)

Think **UV**, not heat! UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.

When **UV**  
is below **3**

Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.



Download the  
**SunSmart Global  
UV app** to find sun  
protection times  
for your location.

March 2023



Scan the QR code or visit  
[sunsmart.com.au/app](https://sunsmart.com.au/app)  
to download.



## Newsletter article: Schools in Category 0, 1 and 2 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register

*This information has been developed to answer frequently asked questions regarding the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and your school's pre-emptive actions on elevated fire danger days.*

### School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).



On elevated fire danger days schools in the highest levels of risk (categories 0, 1 and 2) take pre-emptive actions to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions.

These actions are based on the Local Government Area they are in and their fire risk category.

In addition, all schools and services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which include numerous Local Government Areas. Our school is in the **Central fire weather district**.

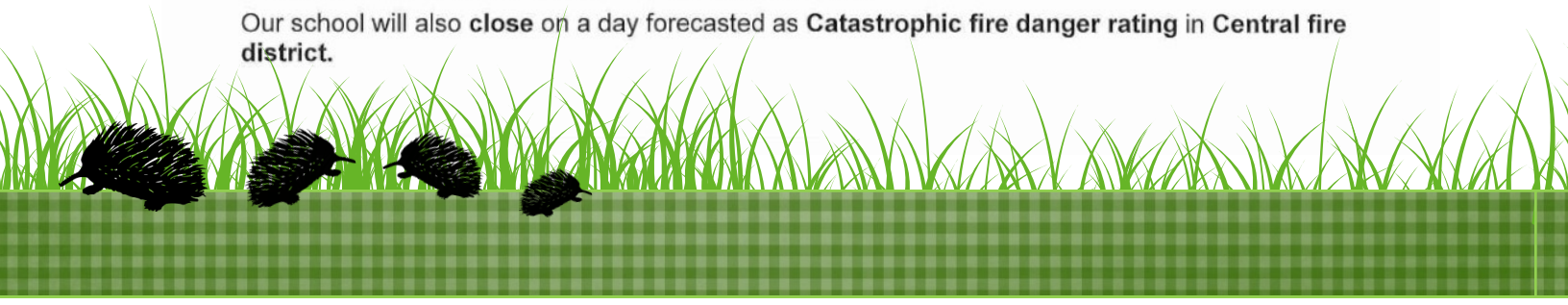
As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and such as reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

### ***What does this mean for our school?***

**Our school has been identified as being in one of the highest fire risk categories - BARR 1**

Our school will action its pre-emptive plan for **relocation** on a day forecasted as **Extreme fire danger rating** in our **local government area (LGA), Nillumbik**.

Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **Central fire district**.



### ***What is the department's policy?***

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires schools at high risk of bushfire to enact pre-emptive action plans based on LGA level fire danger forecasts. Conditions can vary significantly across the wider weather district, so using local forecasts helps us to respond appropriately to risks in our local area and maintain stability and educational continuity for our students and school community. This policy is consistent for all schools at high levels of risk and this approach is supported by emergency services.

The policy also requires that all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

### ***When will our school enact our pre-emptive action plan?***

Our school will action our pre-emptive plan to **Kangaroo Ground Primary School** on days when the fire danger forecast for our local government area, Nillumbik is **Extreme**.

Our school will use the LGA forecast confirmed by emergency services the day before an Extreme fire danger day in our LGA to trigger our plan. We will let you know when we are enacting our pre-emptive action plan. Please be aware that no one will be on site on days where the school has enacted this plan.

### ***What do we do when our LGA has a different fire danger rating to the wider fire weather district?***

As we respond to local conditions, there may be days during the fire season when our fire weather district, Central is forecast as an Extreme fire danger rating, but our LGA is at a lower level of fire danger. On these days our school operations will continue as normal, however we will be taking action in line with fire services advice by:

- checking our Emergency Management Plan and taking any necessary preparedness actions
- actively monitor our local conditions and warnings
- having plans and procedures in place for if a fire starts to support us to take immediate action.

While our school will continue to operate, we encourage our school community to consider their own [bushfire survival plan](#) and reassess any travel through bushfire risk areas. We encourage you to follow your family bushfire survival plan and the advice of emergency services.

There may also be days where our LGA is forecast as Extreme fire danger, but Central is not. On these days we **will** enact our pre-emptive action plan.

### ***When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?***

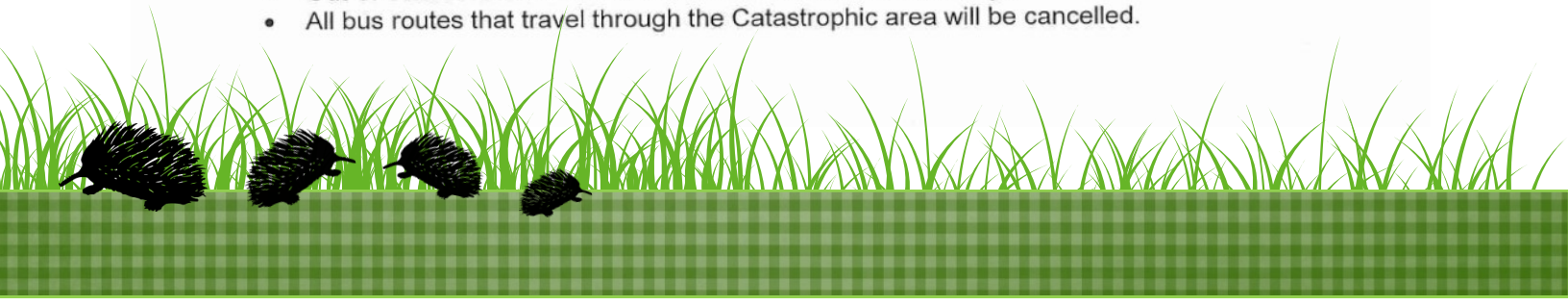
Our school will also **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in Central fire district**.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Sentral

### ***Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes.***

This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.



- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

***What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?***

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by - reading our newsletters, checking our website <https://www.christmashillsps.vic.edu.au/>, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is relocated or closed due to fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Enact your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are enacting your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Caring Honesty Inquisitiveness



## Christmas Hills Primary School

At CHPS we show our CHIRPS by...

Respect Persistence Sharing

Yard	Transitions	Classes	Toilets	Excursions
Hear calm, polite and friendly voices	Calm, organised	Be mindful of personal space	Good hygiene	Be good role models
See inclusive play with a variety of activities	Enter learning spaces in an orderly manner	Take responsibility for your own learning	Respect others' privacy	Hear calm, polite and friendly voices
See people caring for each other		Respectful listening		Be mindful of the general public
Respect nature				Move in an orderly, calm manner

# SCHOOL UNIFORM



## UNIFORM PRICES

- Polo shirt size 6,8,12,14- \$15
- Communication satchel - \$15
- Polo shirt - Adult S,M, L - \$25.00
- Child vest - \$20 Adult 25.00
- Wide brim hat - \$15
- Blue gingham dress- \$20
- Grade six top - \$50