

CHRISTMAS HILLS

Primary School

Newsletter



14th March 2025 - Term 1 - Week 7



Music Program with Jayden Wilson

The students are thoroughly enjoying their music session with Jayden every Friday. It has been great to be able to offer this to our students and have it delivered by such a talented and passionate teacher. I know that there are quite a few students who are having individual lessons afterwards on this day. If you would like for your child to have private/group lessons on a Friday afterwards at school, please contact Jayden directly on 0430 061 095 to arrange.

Principal's Message

It is hard to believe that we are heading towards the end of term 1 with only three weeks left of this term. The students have been extremely settled in the classroom, and it is just wonderful to see how engaged they all are in their learning.

We are getting an excellent turn out each week for playgroup and the school is always buzzing on a Wednesday with families from our local community. It has enabled us to showcase our wonderful facilities and school grounds as well as promote our school.

NAPLAN for Grade 3 and 5 Students

NAPLAN commenced this week and will finish next Monday with Numeracy. We did do some preparation leading up to ensure that students felt confident approaching the assessments and were familiar with how tests were presented. Whilst we did have a couple of issues with technology, these were managed, and the children seemed to take it all in their stride. They actually seemed excited to be doing the tests!!



Important Dates Term 1

Gymnastics Sessions

13th February
20th March
27th March
3rd April

Small Swimming Carnival

27th February

Music Lessons Start

21st February

Naplan

11th March - 21st March

Excursions

28th March - Yarra Valley
Nocturnal Zoo

Term Dates

Term 1 - 28th January - 4th April
Term 2 - 22nd April - 4th July

1st April - Tarrawarra
Museum

Labour Day 10th March

Curriculum Days - 11th March



CHRISTMAS HILLS

Primary School

Newsletter



14th March 2025 - Term 1 - Week 7



Gymnastics at JETS – Diamond Creek

Our students had their second session of gymnastics yesterday. They are always very enthusiastic to participate and build on their skills. It is always a lot of fun and the students especially love finishing the session in the foam pit! We have 3 sessions remaining on Thursday 20th March, 27th March and 3rd April.

Curriculum Day

This week all staff participated in our NESST curriculum day which was held at the Uni Hill Convention Centre. The day was very valuable and provided an opportunity for staff to get together and share with other schools.

We had Dr Ryan Dunn a senior lecturer at Melbourne University present on the new Victorian Teaching and Learning Model 2.0 and Dale Sidebottom from the School of Play who discussed play-based interventions to build wellbeing skills in children and adults. This part of the day was very interactive as we all took part in a range of games that could be adapted and used in the classroom to engage students and provide movement breaks.

Small School Swimming Carnival (Upper Yarra Primary Schools)

Our students took part in the Small School Swimming Carnival a few weeks ago and brought the winning trophy back to school. It was a tremendous effort from everyone and taking out FIRST PLACE was a huge achievement. Congratulations again to all our students. I know that they were all extremely proud and had just the best day. Thank you to all the parents who attended and assisted on the day as well - it was greatly appreciated.

STEM Program

Unfortunately, Chan will not be back this term as he is still recovering from his accident. We have been very lucky to have Briony covering whilst Chan has been out and delivering our STEM Program for us. We will see Chan next term – I know that he has missed the students, and he is hoping to pop in for a visit.

Maria Parks
Principal



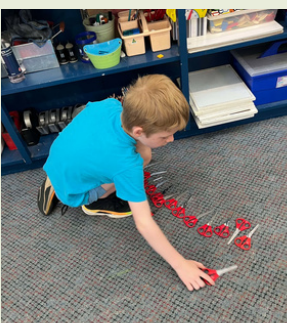
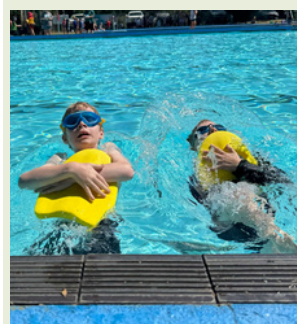
CHRISTMAS HILLS

Primary School

Newsletter



14th March 2025 - Term 1 - Week 7



UPCOMING DATES TERM 1



TERM 1

- 28th January - Staff return to school
- 29th January - Students first day
- 20th February - Gymnastics session
- 27th February - Small Schools Swimming Carnival - Healesville
- 10th March - Labour day
- 11th March - Curriculum Day
- NAPLAN - 11th March - 21st March
- 13th March - Gymnastics
- 24th May - School photos
- 27th March - Gymnastics
- 28th March - Yarra Valley Nocturnal Zoo Excursion
- 1st April - Tarrawarra Museum Excursion
- 3rd April - Gymnastics
- 4th April - Last day of Term 1 - 2:00pm finish

**Activities may change through out the Term*



EXCITING ACTIVITIES COMING UP

Music Lessons

Every Friday

Gymnastics Dates

20th March
27th March
3rd April

Excursions

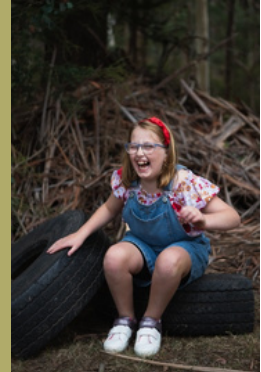
28th March - Yarra Glen Nocturnal Zoo
1st April - Tarrawarra Museum





Christmas Hills Primary School School Photos

Monday 24th of March



I'm looking forward to capturing natural, playful, portraits of your children, and providing a special keepsake of their school journey and personality in 2025!

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE PHOTO DAY?



1

Register your details
via google form **HERE**



2

Place your order before
photo day HERE

Orders & registration are required 48 hours before photo day
If no order is received, your child will only be
photographed in the group photo

For these links and further information, head to
the SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY section at



rebeccalandy.com



Please direct any unanswered questions to
rebeccalandycreates@outlook.com



Get to know
me HERE



NEWSLETTER



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

We're excited to inform you that we will be continuing to take lunch orders every Wednesday through Dark Horse Café.

Please ensure all lunch orders are placed in the designated box by 3:30 PM on Tuesday, please include the student's name, lunch order details, and exact change.



SCHOOL VALUES

Every child at Christmas Hills Primary School is supported in their social and emotional development in a caring way. We help students build skills in empathy and positive relationships, in a framework centred around our school values of CHIRPS – Caring, Honesty, Inquisitiveness, Respect, Persistence, Sharing.

These school values are built around our emblem, the blue wren, and they were jointly decided by students, staff and parents.

CHRISTMAS HILLS

Primary School

CHIRPS



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 of other students	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
- Polo shirt - Adult S,M, L - \$25.00
- Wide brim hat - \$15

- Communication satchel - \$15
- Child vest - \$20 Adult 25.00
- Blue gingham dress- \$20
- Grade six top - \$50

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniforms are available for purchase at any time from the school office. It is important to ensure your child has their school uniform for school excursions.

Additionally, we are now selling book satchels that help keep home readers secure and easily accessible.

CHRISTMAS HILLS PRIMARY
SCHOOL



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

DUOS:
\$35 EACH

FREE FIRST LESSON

- Explore a wide range of music
- Personalised lessons
- Online portal with resources
- Performance opportunities
- Foster a creative imagination
- Build confidence and self-expression
- Improve fine motor skills
- First lesson FREE
- No-obligation trial lesson

GUITAR
DRUMS
VOCALS
KEYBOARD
DJ DECKS
BASS (BYO)
MANDOLIN (BYO)
BANJO (BYO)

Get in touch today at:
jwilson@ripplesidemusic.com
0430 061 095





Christmas Hills

Primary School

Schools in Category

0, 1 and 2 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register



School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.

Our school has been identified as being in one of the highest fire risk categories - BARR 1. On elevated fire danger days, schools in the highest levels of risk take pre-emptive actions to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions.

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.

We will let you know when we are enacting our pre-emptive action plan by Sentral. Please be aware that no one will be on site on days where the school has enacted this plan.

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

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 and 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 if our school is relocated due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action 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

Frequently Asked Questions

The Department of Education annually assesses the fire risk of all schools and early childhood services with the support of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 6). Schools and services that are categories 0-3 are published on the [Bushfire At-Risk Register \(BARR\)](#). Schools at some risk of bushfire and grassfire are published on the [Category 4 List](#).

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.

Why do we use the LGA forecast?

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) 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.

As conditions can vary significantly across a wider weather district, the department uses BoM LGA forecasts for some pre-emptive actions to respond appropriately to risks in the local area and maintain safe educational continuity for students and the school community. LGA forecasts are a subset of the weather district ratings and while not issued publicly, are provided to emergency services and government departments to support planning and operational activities.

This policy is consistent for all schools at high levels of risk and this approach is supported by emergency services, including the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

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, Nillumbik 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 monitoring 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 Nillumbik fire district.

Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the BOM forecast and related public safety messaging is confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Sentral and phone.

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.
- 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.



NILLUMBIK GIRL GUIDES

Eltham & Plenty Groups

Make Friends

Have Adventures

Learn New Skills

Be Creative

Excessive Fun

Ages 5 -18

 **0401 276 680**

 **lyn.glassford@guidesvic.org.au**

 **www.guidesvic.org.au**



School Holiday Activities

Autumn 2025



Same but Different: A Trilogy

The Memo Healesville

Fri 11 Apr – Sat 12 Apr 2025

Recommended for ages 15+



Dad and Me Movie Night: Scoob!

Montrose Town Centre

Thu 10 Apr 2025 | 7.00pm

For children aged 3-8 years



A Toast to Melba

Yarra Ranges Regional Museum

Weds – Sun | 10am – 4pm | Free entry

On Display until Sun 29 Jun

Recommended for all ages



Melba's Vintage Playroom

Yarra Ranges Regional Museum

Weds – Sun | 10am – 4pm | Free entry

On Display until Sun 29 Jun

Recommended for all ages



School Holiday Activities

Autumn 2025 - Calendar



Let's Make Playdough

- 10am-11.30am | Seville
- Age: 2-5 years
- Booking required.



Ruccis Circus workshop

- 10am-11am | Ages 3-8 years
- 11am-12pm | Ages 8-14 years
- Belgrave
- Booking required.



Soccer Clinic

- 10am-12pm | Mooroolbark
- Age: 5-14 years
- Booking required.



Leaf printing

- 10am-11am | Lilydale
- Age: 3-8 years
- Booking required.



Let's Build Lego-quiet play

- 9.30am – 10.30am | Mooroolbark
- Age: 2-8 years
- Booking required.



Joyride Pump Track

- 2pm – 3pm | Coldstream
- Age: 8-14 years
- Booking required.



Pottery

- 1.30pm – 3pm | ECCOSS
- Age: 8-14 years
- Booking required.



Scan to
explore more
events and
book now!

For more information

📞 1300 368 333 🌐 www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/schoolholidays

✉️ earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au

