



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Community,

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. I extend a special welcome to our Preps, new students and their families. I hope you enjoy your time at St Albans Primary School as we work together to develop your child academically, socially and emotionally. If families have any questions or queries please feel free to contact the office.

I would also like to welcome back all our staff a special welcome to our new staff members Ms Emily Gorban & Ms Isabella Milevski.

This year we are working to ensure we continue to be a COVID safe school. At this stage Parents and Guardians are only allowed on site for appointments only All visitors must ensure that they follow COVID safe behaviors including social distancing and wearing a face mask when they are on the school premises and at the school gates.

I would like to remind families that students need to prepare for the day's learning. To maximise learning opportunities, it is best for the children to arrive on time so they are organised to begin their classes. We are starting the school year with staggered starts for all year levels. They are as follows:

Year 1/2 students start the school day at 8:40am & finish at 3:00pm

Year 3/4 students start at 8:50am & finish at 3:10pm

Year 5/6 students start at 9:00am & finish at 3:20pm.

All children must be collected by 3:20pm at the latest unless they are at the after school care program. Please see the flyer attached for more details on this program.

I know everyone will be very happy to be back at school and we are looking forward to a great year of learning and friendships.

To ensure everyone's safety any student who is unwell will be sent home, if your child has a runny nose, cough, sore throat or fever please keep your child at home and take them to get a COVID test. If your child suffers from allergies, you need to speak to your doctor and give them medicine to alleviate symptoms. We understand this is frustrating and appreciate your patience, but this is a necessary practice to keep the school community safe.

R.A Test kits have been given to each student to complete Covid testing at home. We encourage you to use these on your child each Monday and Wednesday morning. If you get a positive result, please let the school know and log it on the portal.

We would like to remind parents that we have Facebook, we post school news, events and photos of your child's time at school on our Facebook Page and our school website. Please follow us on Facebook and visit our school website to see of the above.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stalbansps>

Website: <https://www.stalbps.vic.edu.au/>

Take care and stay safe.

Joanne Richmond
PRINCIPAL

Important Dates

Thursday 10th February:

School Council Meeting via
Webex at 2:20pm

Monday 14th February:

Preps finish at 2:30pm for two
weeks

Wednesday 23rd February

Meet the Teacher via Webex &
Student Free Day

Monday 28th February:

Preps finish 3:20pm

Monday 7th March:

Labour Day Public Holiday

Thursday 10th March:

School Council Meeting via
Webex at 2:20pm

Friday 18th March:

School Photo Day

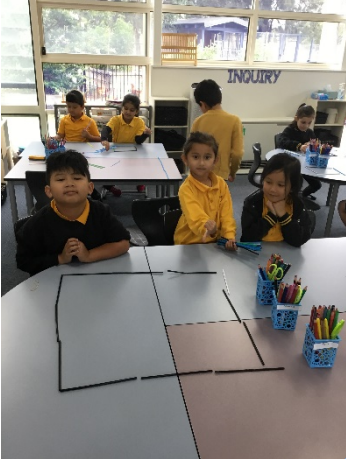
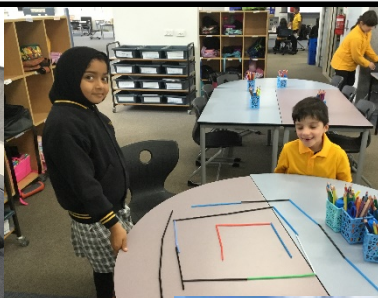
Friday 8th April:

Easter Egg Hunt for all students

Friday 8th April:

End of Term 1, 1:30pm finish
for all students







Department of Education and Training

2 Treasury Place
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
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Dear Parents and Carers

This week's return to face-to-face learning has been a fantastic milestone for children, families, and schools, across Victoria.

The Department of Education and Training has worked closely with the Department of Health to ensure our schools are as safe as they can be.

This includes improving classroom ventilation with air-purifiers and supporting vital COVIDSafe steps, including the use of regular rapid antigen testing, mask wearing and physical distancing.

Thank you to parents and carers for supporting your children with these steps – they are not always easy but are essential to help keep our schools safe and open, and to avoid the disruptions of home learning.

Helping your child to get vaccinated is one of the most important steps we can all take to give children direct protection against COVID-19.

Thanks to the hard work of school communities and families, almost 97% of all 12- to 18-year-olds have now had their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and more than 93% are fully vaccinated.

This is a phenomenal rate of protection for our older students, who couldn't have done it without the support of their families. We now want to see as many of our primary school students achieve that same level of protection.

For those who haven't yet done so, you are invited to book your child's vaccination as soon as possible.

COVID-19 vaccines have been tested and shown to be safe and effective in protecting against serious illness and reducing the likelihood of COVID-19 spreading.

High rates of vaccination also mean there is less chance of school closures – meaning more time for face-to-face learning, more time for fun activities and more time for children to be with their friends.

How it works

Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are delivered at 2 appointments, 8 weeks apart.

The time between the 1st and 2nd dose can be shortened to 3 weeks for children at higher risk of severe COVID-19 such as children with underlying medical conditions.

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has [advised](#) that this includes children with:

- Down syndrome
- Cerebral palsy
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Severe disability that requires frequent assistance with daily living, which includes some autistic children and children with rare genetic disorders
- Heart disease and chronic lung disease, including those regularly hospitalised for asthma
- Cancer and survivors of childhood cancer

How to book an appointment

There are lots of convenient options to get your child vaccinated, including state-wide vaccination clinics, your local GP or pharmacy, and pop-up clinics at many local primary schools.

You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

- online: coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine
- by phone: [1800 675 398](tel:1800675398) (Coronavirus Hotline)
- In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or a [family-friendly vaccination centre](#)

Need help?

Call the [Coronavirus Hotline](tel:1800675398) 1800 675 398: booking or vaccination questions

Need a translation? Refer to the [Information about COVID-19 vaccines in languages other than English](#)

What to bring to the vaccine appointment

For information on what to bring to a vaccine appointment please visit the [Checklist: before your COVID-19 vaccination](#).

These resources can help you and your child prepare for the vaccination:

- [Needle phobia - The Melbourne Vaccine Education Centre \(MVEC\) \(mcri.edu.au\)](https://mcri.edu.au)
- [Tips to help a child afraid of needles and stop it becoming a phobia - ABC Everyday](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination social scripts - Amaze - Autism resource](#)
- [Sesame Street ABC of COVID vaccines](#)
- [The Australian Technical Advisory Group advice on the safety of the paediatric Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- The [Australian Technical Advisory Group 19 January update](#) for a table of medical conditions with increased risk.

Extra support for children with disability or special requirements

Disability Liaison Officers and dedicated vaccination centres (pop-up clinics) are available to for parents and carers who need help for their child to get vaccinated.

For more information, refer to the [Vaccine information for people with a disability or special requirements](#).

Thank you again for your support in ensuring children and our schools are as safe as possible.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Fraser

Deputy Secretary

School Education Programs and Support

3 February 2022

Enrolment and Booking

We offer an easy and uncomplicated free registration system using our online platform at oshclub.com.au or calling our Customer Service team on 1300 395 735.

OSH Club is guided by the governments National Quality Framework and set Education and Core National Law Act and Regulations applicable for each state, so there is necessary documentation we require from each family.

All enrolments must be completed prior to attendance with all required documentation that are required by National Law. These are:

IMMUNISATION HISTORY

Each service has a legal requirement to have a record of each child's immunisation history so families can be contacted if any illnesses are circulating the community and prevent exposure to a child who may not be immunised.

MEDICATION AUTHORISATION FORM

Any medication that needs to be administered requires a Medical Authorisation Form to be signed by the family. The medication then needs to be provided to the service with the child's name clearly displayed in its original packaging.

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

All medical conditions require a Medical Management Plan to be prepared by the child's doctor.

Allergy or anaphylaxis requirements must be on an ASICA Action Plan displayed in colour with a picture of the child and signed by the doctor. Any other medical conditions such as asthma or epilepsy also require a Medical Management Plan along with any medication required to properly manage the child's medical condition, such as an inhaler, auto-injector (epipen) or antihistamines.

Families are responsible for updating any Medical Management Plans on an annual basis and providing these to the service. If these are not provided, this may prevent the child from attending.



Bookings

To allow for flexibility, we have permanent and casual bookings options available for families. Bookings can be managed through oshclub.com.au, by calling Customer service on 1300 395 735 or contacting the coordinator directly for late bookings.

PERMANENT BOOKINGS

Set days for each week (unless altered)

CASUAL BOOKINGS

For changing schedules or infrequent visits

LATE BOOKINGS

Bookings made within 24 hours can incur a late booking fee

CANCELLATIONS

We allow booking cancellations up to seven days prior or they may incur a late cancellation fee, but this is determined by case.

Payments

All statements can be accessed online with Customer Service available on 1300 395 735 if any assistance is required. Payments are automatically debited fortnightly through two payment options:

- Credit card (VISA or Mastercard)
- Direct debit from a nominated bank account

If families are eligible for Child Care Subsidy, they can contact Centrelink Family and Parents Line on 13 61 50 for details on how to register. Once we have these details, families will not have to suffer out of pocket costs by having the rebate applied automatically.

We also have further assistance for families suffering with financial hardship. For more information, contact Customer Service and Billing on 1300 395 735.



