



## What's On?

3 September  
Onsite Learning Resumes

3 September  
Parent Opinion  
Survey Closes

7 September  
School Council

2pm 17 September  
Term 3 Ends

4 October  
Term 4 Starts

### Dear Parents and Carers,

I think we are starting to see evidence of Spring! We had such beautiful weather on the weekend but then it dropped at the beginning of the week, and I was in my full-length puffer jacket again. There is one street that I turn into on my way home that is lined with ornamental pear trees. One day they are completely bare and then I turn the corner and WOW they are full of blossom. I am hanging out for that day!



This week we welcomed back Lachlan Kelly to our school. Lachlan was a teacher here from 2009-2017. He taught the primary students during that time. Lachlan comes back to us after spending the last four years in regional Victoria at both mainstream and a specialist school. Lachlan will be taking over the role of Learning Specialist and will have three days teaching VCAL.

I am sure we all feel the same about the current situation and the stay-at-home measures. I hope you are managing to stay safe and hopefully we will get on top of this outbreak and we can open the school to all students. I know this is a difficult time for many of our families. If you require support, please reach out to one of the Leadership team.

PLEASE STAY SAFE  
AND TAKE CARE

**Stay home when unwell.** The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, is to ensure that any unwell staff and students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms.

**No student is come to school with cold or flu-like symptoms. If your child is sick or a member of the family is sick, please get tested. If your child is sent home from school for being sick, they will not be able to return to school unless they have recorded a negative test result. It is important that all of us keep doing the right things to stay safe and well.**

**Students and staff with underlying conditions (such as hay fever or asthma).** If a student or staff member has persistent symptoms due to an underlying condition such as hay fever or asthma, the student should still be tested for COVID-19 **if they develop symptoms that are different to or worse than their usual symptoms.** Parents/carers and staff should also consider getting a medical certificate from their treating GP to confirm that it is safe for them to attend school with persistent symptoms that may overlap with some of the symptoms of COVID-19 such as cough or runny nose.

**Young children with persistent mild symptoms.** Younger children (pre-school up to Grade 2) may have prolonged post-viral symptoms such as a runny nose or cough and may return to school following a negative COVID-19 test even if they are not completely free of symptoms. **They will need a medical certificate from their GP to confirm they are otherwise well or have recovered from their acute illness.**

If you know of any families who have a child who is eligible to attend our school, please tell them to call me on 9370 8906.

**Christine Monahan, Assistant Principal**

# Allied Health News

## Integrating AAC in the classroom

Staff are enjoying using the new communication boards in their classrooms to facilitate your child's communication needs.



Kirsten and Klara having a lovely conversation using the communication board to talk about feelings

## Key word sign of the week is "More"

Cup your hand on your chest and move in an outward motion

See Getty and Natalliya's Z-Admin SeeSaw demonstration



## Core Word of The Week

Practice modelling the core word on the AVHS communication board.

**"More"**

See Getty and Natalliya's Z-Admin SeeSaw demonstration



"I want **MORE** bubbles"  
"Would you like **MORE** food?"

## Mental Health Support for students and families

Frequent lockdowns in Victoria can have an impact on the mental health and wellbeing of students and families. Common reactions to the pandemic and the impact it is having on our lives may include:

- Fear, worry and anxiety
- Anger and frustration
- Confusion
- Sadness
- Loss of motivation
- Loss/increase of appetite
- Feeling hopeless

It's important to seek mental health support when you need it, however it can be difficult with many services experiencing significant wait times. HeadtoHelp was established by the Australian Government to increase the mental health support available to Victorians during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**HeadtoHelp is a free service.** When you call you speak with an experience mental health professional who will listen to your situation and help you. Depending on your needs, they may:

- Refer you to a suitable local service
- Offer support through the HeadtoHelp hub, either onsite or through telehealth
- Connect you to a specialist or acute mental health services, including into emergency care

Call **1800 595 212** or visit <https://headtohelp.org.au/how-we-can-help/> for more information.

## Contacting the team

### Speech Pathology

Getty [getty@wordsinmotion.com.au](mailto:getty@wordsinmotion.com.au)

Working days: Wednesday and Friday

Natalliya [natalliya@wordsinmotion.com.au](mailto:natalliya@wordsinmotion.com.au)

Working days: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

### Mental Health Practitioner

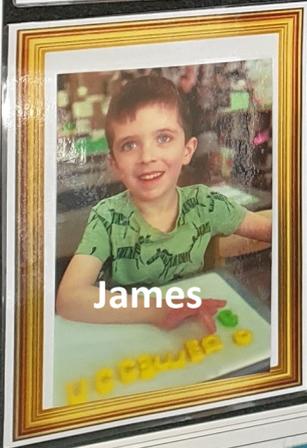
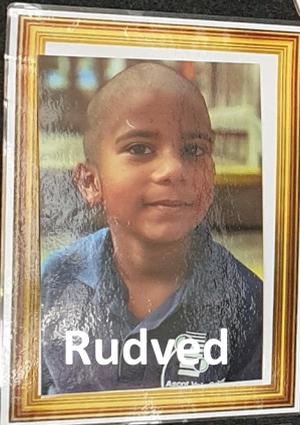
Monique [monique.parker@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:monique.parker@education.vic.gov.au)

Working days: Wednesday and Thursday

*The MHP role is funded to support secondary students only.*



# CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS



I CAN BE SAFE

School Rules  
Be Your Best

Be a Learner  
Be Safe  
Be a Friend



# ROOM 14

Our unit is based on 'Collaboration', we were working together to produce a Room 14 class melody.



## Greetings from Room 15,

Room 15 have been busy learning from home (just like everyone else), and all doing such a fabulous job. We are very experienced at remote and flexible learning, Webex and Virtual visits. For example, before the lockdown on 30<sup>th</sup> July we had Andrew Tsindos – service manager from Mercy Place Aged Care as part of our Personal Development Skills 2 program. Andrew presented to us about the importance of an aged care home in the community and all the programs they offer their residents at Mercy Place Parkville. We hope to visit them once lockdowns are over.

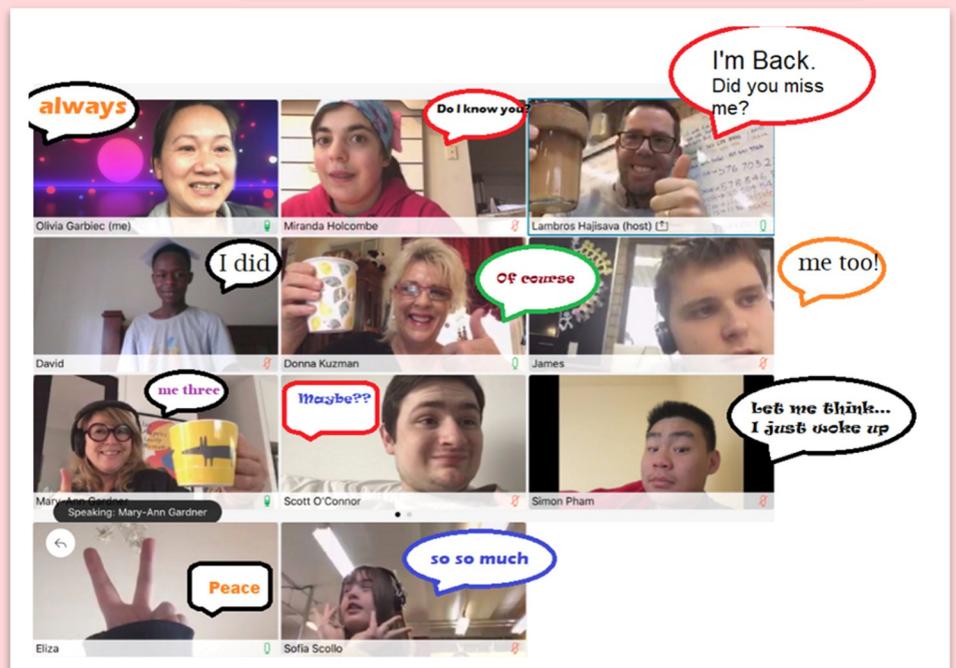


We are also preparing our Year 12 Careers Program. Students practice job interviews with the Moonee Valley Local Learning and Employment Network Team at Kensington Town Hall. Several years ago, our students had the opportunity to participate in this wonderful program with a number of employers. Fingers crossed it will go ahead this year!



Finally, a warm welcome to Lachlan, our new Room 15 teacher who is also the school Learning Specialist.

We are so excited to have Lachlan onboard and know that he will love being in Senior Secondary School!



# HEATH DAVIDSON SURPRISES ASCOT VALE HEIGHTS

6 August 2021 | Tennis Victoria  Tweet  Share  30



Wheelchair tennis superstar and Paralympian Heath Davidson recently surprised the students of Ascot Vale Heights School via Zoom!

But there was one student among the many who was particularly excited to receive the call from Heath.

Daniel Vadnjaj has been selected by his school for the [Australian Olympic Change-Maker Program](#) which recognises students who are demonstrating the Olympic Spirit – friendship, sportsmanship and striving for excellence.

Daniel adores playing tennis – and has been involved with tennis both on and off the court. Daniel is part of the TA junior performance squad for players with an intellectual disability, as well as a Special Olympics tennis athlete and player of the state and national Australian Tennis Championships. Off the court, he has starred in a Tennis Victoria photoshoot, and participated in a focus group to help VicSport with their projects.

An impressive resume to say the least!

After hearing from Ascot Vale Heights Assistant Principal Megan Retallick, Heath was more than happy to take some time out of his busy schedule to spend some time with the students during their Ascot Vale Olympic Games celebration.

Daniel was the MC of the call with Heath, and the students asked fantastic questions, from game strategy with doubles partner Dylan Alcott to training regimes and everything in between!

Heath is currently training for the Paralympic Games, with the Wheelchair Tennis competition kicking off on Friday August 27th. He'll be joined by Dylan Alcott, debutant Martyn Dunn and five-time Paralympian Ben Weekes.

# PARENT OPINION SURVEY

**WE WANT OUR PARENTS /CARERS/GUARDIANS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!**

**Thank you to the parents, carers and guardians who have taken the time to complete the anonymous Parent Opinion Survey, however we have only had 32 parent responses .**

The confidential link has been sent to the email we have on file for you and the school would appreciate you taking the time to complete it.

If you have not received a copy of the email please contact the office.

The survey is conducted anonymously and closes Friday 3 September .

Hi everyone,  
 My wife and I have moved back to the city after spending the last 4 years in North East Victoria. I have been very lucky living in Beechworth, one of the most beautiful places in Victoria. I spent most of my time teaching at Belvoir Specialist School as a Learning Specialist and teaching a classroom of Prep, Grade 1 and 2 students.  
 It is great to be back in Melbourne and being close to friends and family and I am most looking forward to meeting everyone and working with you all!

Things I love the most are:



My wife, Lucy!



Skiing



Poppy



Mittens



And landscape & flower photography

Be sure to say "hello" when you see me around the school! *Lachlan*

Preston Rotary Club is proud to host International Entertainment's

# 2021 'CIRCUS QUIRKUS' ONLINE SHOW

ENTER THE WONDROUS WORLD OF CIRCUS QUIRKUS WITH UNBELIEVABLE ACROBATIC SKILLS, MAGIC, JUGGLING AND VAUDEVILLE  
 CIRCUS ACTS WITH LAUGH OUT LOUD COMEDY THAT WILL HAVE AUDIENCES OF ALL AGES CHEERING ALONG!

**WATCH DIRECTLY FROM OUR STAGE TO YOUR SCREEN WITH FREE UNLIMITED AND ON-DEMAND VIEWING - AVAILABLE UNTIL SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST 2021**

VISIT THE WEBSITE OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW, AND ENTER THE PASSWORD TO ACCESS THE VIDEO..

[vimeo.com/showcase/cqmelb21](https://vimeo.com/showcase/cqmelb21)

Password: **cqmelb21**

Please show your appreciation to the businesses that sponsored this event by sending a thank you email to [thankyou@iepty.com](mailto:thankyou@iepty.com)



**Ivy and her family celebrating getting their COVID jabs**  
**Way to go Ivy!**