

NEWSLETTER

Available online and Flexi buzzed each week.

2019 Thursday 19 September

KEY REMINDERS

Curriculum/Student Free Days remaining for 2019

Friday 1st November

Monday 4th November

Reminder that students do not come to school on these days.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Final day of Term 3 (Casual Dress Day/Foot Colours Day)

Friday 20th September on this day school finishes at 2:30pm.

First Day Term 4

Monday 7th October

Year 2 Sleepover

Friday 11th October

Year 3/4 Sunnystones Camp

6th – 8th November

Peruvian Fiesta Day

Wednesday 20th November

End of Year Festive

Concert/Art Show

Thursday 12th December

Principal

Alex Artavilla

School Council President

Gordon Mckenzie

School Supervision Times

8.45am - 9.00am

3.15pm - 3.30pm

'We are a child safe school and compliant with child safety standards. Child safety policies available on website.'



SUNSHINE
HEIGHTS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Just a reminder to families that there are two more Curriculum/Student Free Days for 2019. This includes

- Friday 1st November
- Monday 4th November

Please note that Big Child Care will be operating for both days from 6:45am to 6:30pm. For bookings and information, please contact Big Child Care on 0432 802 045 and sunshineheights@bigchildcare.com.

Tomorrow is the final day of Term 3. Don't forget that school finishes at 2:30pm. Students can also come to school dressed in their favourite Footy Colours or Casual Dress.

What an amazing way to finish off the term!

It was a busy final few weeks of the term, but to celebrate and showcase our students in so many ways over the past few days, has made all the hard work worthwhile.

The 'First Australian' Classroom Exhibition was an amazing and proud moment for us as school community as we celebrated, together, the oldest living culture in the world. I invited members of the Department to also enjoy the exhibition and they both described it as a learning opportunity, 'that is leading practice in helping young people appreciate the early history of the Australian continent'.

Thank you for the positive feedback and for supporting the unit of work.

Today we also had the Talent Show, which highlighted the diverse talents of our students. We had a play, storyteller, a magician, singers, musicians, dancers and even a beat boxer!

Winner of the Talent Show to be announced at assembly tomorrow. Big thank you to all the students that entered the competition.

Thank you Tahnee

We also need to thank and farewell Tahnee who has been with us since the beginning of the term learning about the role of a Principal. Tahnee has kindly put together a message for the school community, which is included below. Thank you Tahnee for your kind words and contributions over the past 10 weeks, and we wish you well with your leadership journey.

Dear Staff, Students, Parents and Carers,

Thank you for opening your doors and providing me with such a wonderful experience in school leadership. I have learnt a great deal from Sunshine Heights Primary School. You have a wonderful culture with such creative, dedicated and inspired staff and students. I have really enjoyed participating in the learning that the school community went on with the 'Our Deadly Journey' unit of work and participating in school celebrations, particularly book week and the talent show.

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 03 8311 7100

 1-19 Mailey Street, West Sunshine 3020

 sunshineheightsps.vic.edu.au

 @sunshineheightsps

 sunshine.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

State School no. 4744

From a leadership perspective, I am motivated by the collaborative structures within your school that provide time for teachers to go deeper with their professional learning. The culture of inquiry is very well supported throughout Sunshine Heights and is making an impact on student learning outcomes.

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to your Principal Alex Artavilla who has mentored me. He is very inspiring and I can see why he is so valued by your school community. I would also like to thank your Assistant Principals Jacinta Goldie and Sharon Noel for allowing me to also work with them and learn about their roles in creating and maintaining a rigorous curriculum and wellbeing focus across your school. I am also grateful to Sonia Papadopoulos, Sally Fowler and Shannon Slater and their teams who have also generously given me their time, allowed me to ask questions and been part of their meetings.

I wish Sunshine Heights all the best in the future. I am very excited for the work you will be doing in the future to strengthen the teaching and learning programs.

Thank you all for including me in your wonderful community.

Warm Regards

Tahnee Curtain

Curriculum Days 2020

We are currently working through the process of finalising our Curriculum Days (days when students do not attend school) for 2020. The following dates have been confirmed and include:

- Tuesday 28 January 2020 is the first day back for teachers (with no students attending)
- Wednesday 29 January will be the second 'Curriculum Day' of the year
- Monday 2nd November
- One yet to be allocated – we will inform parents of this date early next term.

The purpose and focus of first two days (28th and 29th January) will include:

- Reconnecting staff
- Revisiting our priorities and focus for the year
- Setting up classroom environments
- Finalising team planning and revisiting learning expectations for reading, writing and mathematics

The purpose and focus on Monday 2nd November will include:

- Assessing student learning in preparation for reports
- Completing online OHS modules

Over the past two years, we have used three Curriculum Days at the start of the school year. However, currently we have not finalised the purpose and date of the fourth Curriculum Day. The reason for this is that we are working with Chris Egan (consultant) to develop a professional learning day that would be facilitated by McREL's Brian Goodman around 'Curiosity Works', moving schools from improvement to innovation – restoring the power of hungry minds for better schools, workplaces and lives. Chris Egan is currently exploring this for us as a way of deepening our understandings of the science around learning and the brain. This session may also occur with other schools. No date has been scheduled, as we are still finalising Brian's availability and cost. Brian is the CEO and President of McREL, which is a highly respected international education research and development organisation. We are hoping to finalise the date of the fourth and final Curriculum day early next term.

This means that the starting dates for 2020 will include:

- First day of school for students in Years 1 – 6: Thursday 30th January 2020
- First day of school Preps: Monday 3rd February 2020 (no school for Preps on Wednesday 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th Feb)
- Parent Teacher meetings Wednesday 26th Feb – this includes Prep – 6 families

Look forward to seeing everyone when we return on Monday 7th October.

Alex Artavilla
Principal