

NEWSLETTER

Available online and Flexi buzzed each week.

2019 Thursday 1st August

KEY REMINDERS

Do you have a Prep starting school next year? Enrolments for 2020 are open. We are hoping all our current families enrol as soon as possible.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Year 5/6 Camp information session in library 7 August
3:15-3:45pm

Boite Millennium Schools Chorus - school choir
8 August Melbourne Town Hall

Author Visit Grades P-2
Glenda Millard 14 August

Author Visit Grades 3-6
Felice Arena 15 August

Book Week Dress Up Day
Friday 16th of August

Year 5/6 Camp Doxa
21 - 23 August

Father's Day breakfast @Sunshine Social
Friday 30 August 7:30am

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,

Thank you for your warm welcome last week. For those I am yet to meet I would like to introduce myself. My name is Tahnee Curtain and this term I am very fortunate to be able to spend time with your school as part of the Unlocking Potential program run by The Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership. This program provides support to leaders in education to develop the confidence, skills and professional knowledge in preparation for their first principal class role. It also includes an internship component where aspirant Principals get to shadow an experienced Principal.

So why Sunshine Heights Primary School?

My experience in education has been in both primary and secondary schools. I am currently the Director of Music at Princes Hill Secondary College and very much enjoy leading and managing such a vibrant program, that engages many students in performance and music making. The other aspect of my role has been developing our whole school vision, mission and values and more specifically our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

I am very passionate about inclusion. I have two children aged seven and five. They are both inquisitive, energetic and excited learners. My eldest son has autism and ADHD and we have a very strong and positive relationship with his school. This relationship has ensured that my son continues to be a confident and engaged learner, with a bright and promising future. I hope to one day be able to make the same profound positive impact on students with additional needs in primary schools, supporting teachers, families and students. When looking for a school to complete my internship, I asked my sons Principal for advice. I wanted to go to a school that had strong practices of inclusion and engagement with both their students, staff and community. A school that was collaborative, positive and focused on improvement. Sunshine Heights Primary School was recommended as a place that provided all that and much more.

In the last two weeks, I feel like I have learnt so much from your school community. I love walking the halls and seeing all the displays of student work. I am encouraged by this terms unit of work on our nations first people and look forward to seeing how the students deepen their understanding of our cultural heritage. The pride in which the school exhibits this work is inspiring. I have also enjoyed reading the comments by students, staff and parents about why you love your school.


Equally seeing the students have opportunities to share their work and love of dance through assembly was an experience I will never forget. I love that your school enjoys music as much as I do! Music and dance is a wonderful way to celebrate our history, diversity and what unites us. Dancing with Mr D's class at assembly was a highlight. I even learnt a few new moves. What struck me on Friday as the students were leaving was how happy the Sunshine Heights Primary School Community are. Now I know it was Friday and that is enough to make anyone happy, but I had seen the same joy in students, staff and parents every day last week.

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Over this term, I will get the chance to work with teachers inquiring about how we can continue to build our collective knowledge and improve our practice. I love how collaborative the teaching and learning teams are at Sunshine Heights Primary School. Their dedication and passion ensuring your children are meeting their learning goals is evident in everything they do and I am very excited to learn with them. I am also looking forward to the 100 days of prep on the 7th of August and seeing what 100 things the preps have collected and them all dressed up as 100 years old. My daughter is in prep this year and this weekend we went out and prepared her 100-year-old costume for her prep parade. So, if you are looking for inspiration...



Lastly, this week I have the honour of being your Friday night DJ. Music has always been a big part of my family. My mother is a beautiful singer and I have two brothers who play the piano, drums and sing. I myself play the piano, saxophone and sing. My dad can sing too but we always used to joke that he was our roadie. When growing up our family was referred to as the Fitzgerald family singers – a nod to The Sound of Music. However, music for my family meant much more than just performing together. Music also brought our extended family together and I loved nothing more than dancing with my cousins. So this week I bring you a selection of songs that brought my family together in song and dance. The last is a song my own children like to dance to.

1. Flashdance – Maniac
2. Whitney Houston – I wanna dance with somebody
3. ABBA – Dancing Queen
4. Men at Work - YMCA
5. Electric Light Orchestra – Mr Blue Sky

I hope you enjoy my trip down memory lane. I look forward to my time here at Sunshine Heights Primary School and hope to have many conversations with students, parents and staff over this term.

Warm Regards,
Tahnee Curtain

Just some other things happening...

The 2019 Dughala Choral Connection Boite Schools Chorus

As mentioned in previous newsletters, 15 of our students will perform in the 2019 Dughala Choral Connection Boite Schools Chorus performance. This will be happening on Thursday August 8th at 1pm at the Melbourne Town Hall. The students have been rehearsing during their recess time and will be sharing the song they will be singing at assembly on Friday (tomorrow).

This will be a fantastic event so whether you have a student involved or not, come and join the audience and support the Sunshine Heights PS choristers.

Tickets are available at: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=528434&>

National Gallery of Victoria – Indigenous Excursions – 18th and 19th September

The National Gallery of Victoria have kindly offered 80 students from Years 3 to 6 to attend a day of workshops and exhibits without any cost. They will also cover cost for the students to be transported to the city. With a new Indigenous Art Exhibition launching in September this fits in perfectly with our Deadly Journey. Our Arts teachers Francine and Aasta will select the students that have demonstrated an interest in Art and send home permission forms over the coming weeks.

Finally Book Week Celebration Dress Up Day!

We are having a Dress Up Day for Book Week on Friday 16th August! The theme is for students to come to school dressed as their favourite 'book' character. We will also have a parade and assembly at 9:15am in the gym.