

# NEWSLETTER

Available online and Flexi buzzed each week

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
2020

## Key reminders

Harmony Day 2020  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March  
Permission forms and  
information on XUNO in the  
'Events' section.

## Dates to remember

- 18 March 6pm – 6:40pm  
final **School Council  
meeting** for 2019  
members
- 18 March 6:40pm **Election  
of Office bearers** School  
Council meeting for 2020  
members
- 25 March **Harmony Day**  
10:40am Sunshine Market  
Place
- 24 April **Earth Day** – trip to  
Kororoit Creek for planting
- 8 May 7:30am – 9am.  
**Celebrating the special  
people in our lives event!**  
**Mother's Day breakfast**  
at Sunshine Social

**Principal**  
Alex Artavilla

## School Supervision Times

8.45am - 9.00am  
3.15pm - 3.30pm



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your kind words and support regarding my new role. It was nice to be able to share this news with everyone so that I get the chance to say thank you for your amazing generosity throughout my time at Sunshine Heights.

Over the past few weeks, I have had the chance to reflect on my adventure with the students, staff and families over the past 10 years. There are so many memories that I will take with me when I leave Sunshine Heights that will include such things as having eager students waiting at my office door keen and proud to share a story they wrote – but most importantly, to share what inspired their thinking! Something that makes the school so special. That sense of joy and wonder in the eyes of the students when they do something that they never thought they could achieve, is something that I will truly miss.

I will also miss the ways in which we celebrated the students, their learning and the school, through events such as the 'Honouring the history of the school exhibition', 'Mexican Fiesta Day', the '50s and 60s evening family dance party', 'Art Show Festive Concert', 'The Passageway of Learning Exhibition' to name a few.

However, probably my two favourite events of the year are Harmony Day and Twilight School Day. Both these days are based around the idea of celebrating who we are together, and what amazing things can be achieved if you work as one. I'll never forget the day I shared the idea of our first Harmony Day flash mob. The responses were either super positive or of extreme caution. 'The whole school?', 'Even the preps?' 'Are you crazy?'

However, thanks to the support, positivity and persistence of many families, students and staff it has turned out to a highlight of the year and an experience that the students, staff and families will remember for a long time.

This year, **Harmony Day will be celebrated on Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>** at the Sunshine Market Place (outside on the street, outside JB Hi Fi – next to the pop up park) at around 10:40am. Big thank you once again to the Sunshine Market Place for supporting this event. **Don't forget to complete permission forms, which can only be done on XUNO.**

Steps to approve for your child to participate in the event:

1. Go into 'Events' on XUNO
2. Click on 'Approval' – a 5-digit number will be sent to your phone via SMS.
3. Enter 5-digit into the 'Approval' section then click 'Approve' to finalise the process.

Also, don't forget to get your 'Rainbow Coloured' clothes ready for the day! Let's spread some friendship delight through the streets of Sunshine!

**Twilight School Day/Evening**  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 1:00pm – 7:15pm

Twilight School Day has also been locked in and notices will be going home very soon. Twilight School is part of our Education Week celebrations and gives families the opportunity to spend the day or a few hours in their child's classroom to learn more about how we support the students to learn. On Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May, the hours of school will change with students starting at 1:00pm and finishing at 7:15pm. On this day students

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State School no. 4744

need to arrive at school between 12:45pm to 1:00pm. As in previous years, we also understand that it may be difficult for parents/carers to supervise their children between 9:00am – 12:45pm, which is why we are providing as much notice as possible, so that alternative supervision arrangements can be made, so that students can enjoy the Twilight School experience. However, closer to the date we will be sending home a notice to find out if there are families that are having difficulty arranging supervision for their child between 9:00am – 12:45pm.

More information about the event will be sent home early next term.

### Earth Day

Visiting our adopted area of Kororoit Creek Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April

To celebrate Earth Day in 2020 the whole school community will once again head over to our adopted area of Kororoit Creek to add a further 500 plants/shrubs. This will take our total of plants and shrubs added to the area to over 3,000! For families new to the school, in 2015 we adopted a part of Kororoit Creek to not only support Melbourne Water and Brimbank Council with taking care of our natural environment but to also promote to the students the importance of looking after our local community. To add to the experience of the day we are hoping that as many families as possible could join the students for the event. Bring along some snacks for yourself, a drink, sturdy shoes and gloves. Your help will be much appreciated. **Please note that this is a local excursion experience**, which parents have approved on the student enrolment forms. However, please inform your child's teacher by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of April if you do not want your child to participate in this event. However, we are hoping that all students take part in the day. As with our planting experiences in previous years, we will be sending students to the creek at varying times throughout the day.

- Prep students and their buddy class – 4A, 4B and 4C will be leaving the school at 9:30am
- Year 1, 2 and 6 students will be leaving the school at 10:30am (students to have their snack before heading off)
- Year 3s, 3/4A and 5 students will be leaving the school at 11:40am.

NOTE: Year 6 students may have interschool sports on this day. If it is raining, the event will be postponed.

### Celebrating the special people in our lives event! Mother's Day breakfast

Friday 8th of May 2020 7:30am to 9:00am

Also, don't forget that to celebrate the special people in our lives, the Sunshine Social have once again kindly offered to open early to allow families to gather for some breakfast and coffee, while listening to tunes from Mr Greg! Note this in your diary!

**Finally**, at the writing of this newsletter, there was no news regarding the process for appointing a new Principal for the school. However, the region is currently organising an Acting Principal to oversee the running of the school until a substantive person is appointed (likely to commence mid Term 2). The Acting Principal will commence in the role before I leave for my new role.

Please note that Jacinta Goldie and Sharon Noel will be taking leave early Term 2 which is why they have supported the decision to allow the appointment of an external person to take on the Acting Principal position.

To support the Acting Principal and the new Principal in transitioning into the role, as a leadership team we have been working closely to strengthen and refine organisational matters of the school.

Due to Jacinta Goldie and Sharon Noel taking leave for the first 5 weeks of Term 2, an exciting leadership opportunity has been offered to a member of staff. Michelle Rangott who is currently a Learning Specialist and Year 6 teacher, will be taking on the role of Acting Assistant Principal during the first 5 weeks of Term 2. Michelle is supported by a strong leadership structure, an amazing office team, an unbelievable staff, and super supportive and respectful parent community. Michelle will be released from her classroom role to take on this opportunity.

Alex Artavilla  
Principal



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