

23rd February 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SERPPELL SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Serpell Primary School Council is an elected body comprising up to 15 members: 8 parents, 4 DET employee members, 1 Parent Association representative, 1 possible co-opted member and the Principal as Executive Officer. The term of office is 2 years. Each year, half of the Council comes due for election.

The School Council is a legally formed body that has the power to set the key policies and directions of the school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing so, the School Council is able to influence the quality of education that the school provides for our students.

School Council meets at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month. In addition, it operates subcommittees in Finance, Education, Facilities and Major Projects, which all involve councillors in at least one additional meeting per month.

We encourage all parents to consider providing valuable community service by nominating for School Council.

I hereby call for nominations for the Serpell Primary School Council.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each category open for election are as follows:

Parent Members

No. of positions: 4

Term of Office: 2 years

DET Employee Members

No. of positions: 2

Term of Office: 2 years

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00pm on Tuesday 2nd March 2021. Following the close of nominations, a list will be posted at the front of the school. If nominations exceed vacancies, we will hold an election. The timeline is as follows:

February 23rd Call for Nominations

March 2nd Nominations Close 4pm

March 9th Ballot Distributed

March 16th Poll Closes at 4pm

March 17th Declaration of the Poll

Some Serpell parents may be interested in working with School Council prior to standing for formal membership. Our School Council operates subcommittees in education, finance, resources, and alumni. Expressions of interest from parents who want to support our school through these committees is also most welcome and should be submitted in writing to the School Council President, through the school office.

2021 SCHOOL CAPTAINS ELECTED

Following an election involving all students in Year 6 last week, we are really excited to share with you that the 2021 School Captains are:

Mikaili Mitchell (C) Lachlan Neal (C)
Arunavo Paul (VC) Molly Zhou (VC)



School Captains are involved each week in leading the school assemblies and representing the school at a wide range of public events.

Today the House Captain election will take place. Congratulations to all students who nominated for these positions and took up the challenge of presenting speeches detailing their attributes to their peers.

WILMA CULTON

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos for 2021 will be held on **Tuesday the 16th of March** and **Wednesday the 17th of March**.

Information on how to order your school photos will appear in next week's newsletter. All photo orders are now placed online, to allow for easy tracking and record keeping.

Please note that your child's **preferred name** will appear on the School Photo for 2021. If you have any questions or concerns, please email kristele.kluke@education.vic.gov.au

Kristele KLUKE

DISTRICT SWIMMING FINALS

Last Monday the 22nd of February, 32 students participated in the District Swimming Championships at Aquarena. The students demonstrated their excellent swimming skills, as well as great sportsmanship to achieve outstanding results. Our students won 14 events in the A section (9 individual and 5 relays), and 10 individual events were won in the B section. A total of 41 out of 50 possible placings were achieved. This is an incredible achievement by our students, clearly demonstrating their hard work and commitment.

Best of luck now to the following 17 students who will be representing Serpell Primary School in the Divisional Swimming Championships on Monday the 1st of March:

Baosheng Zhou 50 metres Freestyle and Breaststroke
Adam Hsu 50 metres Freestyle and Butterfly
Cato Cheung 50 metres Freestyle and Breaststroke
Shih-Yuan Lim 50 metres Backstroke and Breaststroke
Calvin Gao 50 metres Butterfly
Alan Li, Adam Hsu, Marios Papairaklis and Shih-Yuan
11 Boys Freestyle Relay
Minsung Shin, Cato Cheung, Lucas Xanthos and Noah
Brooks 12 Boys Freestyle Relay
Mia Huang, Issy Shangguan, Amelia See and Karen Zhang
10 Girls Freestyle Relay
Candace Lau, Jessica May, Emily May and Parmis
Rezazadeh Niavarani 12 Girls Freestyle Relay
Alan Li, Shih-Yuan Lim, Adam Hsu and Cato Cheung
Open Boys/Mixed Medley Relay

Lola Hughes and Kris Sais

PARENT'S ASSOCIATION

On behalf of the Parent's Association (PA), it's my pleasure to welcome back all our parents and a special warm welcome to the new prep parents to our PA community.

We hope everyone has a safe and productive school year. During these unprecedented times of the COVID-19 pandemic, the PA activities and actions will be adjusted to follow health mandates and put everyone's safety first. Be certain, however, we will do everything we are able to continue to fundraise, invest in enriching our students' school experience, and support our faculty. We hope this year will be a lot different from the last. It is our goal to create school spirit, a sense of community, joy and organize appropriate events.

Our Parent's Association (PA) at Serpell Primary School consists of a group of dedicated parents who work together for the benefit of the school community.

We regularly meet to discuss new ways we can augment our children's school experience, and always welcome new voices. We encourage you to contact us to find out more about how you can get involved in the Parents' Association.

Regardless of how much (or how little) time you have to contribute, we are genuinely grateful for all who are able to get involved.

Please consider becoming a member. PA meets once a month.

Some great friendships have been formed through PA and the kids love their parents being involved in their school. Meetings are advertised via the school newsletter. Please watch this space for upcoming events .

Kanika Saluja
President

President.serpell@gmail.com

CLASSROOM HELPERS PROGRAM

CLASSROOM HELPER TRAINING TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN EARLY YEARS LITERACY LEARNING:

Afternoon sessions Term 1

Parent training sessions for the Classroom Helpers program will be offered on a Wednesday afternoon this term. These sessions are designed around the areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. If you are interested in assisting in the Prep, Year One or Year Two classrooms, attendance at the four training sessions is essential. If you would like to learn more about the way your child learns literacy skills, you are most welcome to attend. **There are four sessions each of approximately 90 minutes duration. You must commit to the whole four sessions.**



The following sessions will be held this term:

Wednesday 3rd of March

Wednesday 10th of March

Wednesday 17th of March

Wednesday 24th of March

Time: 2.00-3.30pm

Location: Staff Centre Administration building

No pre-school children please.

Please note, due to current Covid guidelines, we are limiting numbers to 30 people for this training course, and all parents must wear masks. Please fill out the return slip below if you are interested in attending this Literacy Education Program and return it to the school office by the 2nd of February. We will be in contact with you before the workshops begin to confirm your place.

Mia Reid
Literacy Learning Specialist

Parent Classroom Helper Program Sessions

I would like to attend the Parent Classroom Helper Program sessions this term.

Please print:

Name: _____

Child's name: _____

Child's teacher: _____

Email: _____

Contact Number: _____

DIARY

Mon 1 st	Mar	Divisional Swimming
Mon 1 st	Mar	Prep finish time now 3:30pm
Wed 3 rd	Mar	Parent Helper Training Session 1 From 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Mon 8 th	Mar	Public Holiday – No School
Wed 10 th	Mar	Parent Helper Training Session 2 From 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Tue 16 th	Mar	School Photos
Wed 17 th	Mar	School Photos
Wed 17 th	Mar	Parent Helper Training Session 3 From 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Wed 24 th	Mar	Parent Helper Training Session 4 From 2:00pm – 3:30pm
Thur 1st	Apr	Last Day of Term 1 – 2:30pm finish
Mon 19 th	Apr	First Day of Term 2

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

We are currently seeking parent volunteers to be Class Representatives for your child's class. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to be Class Rep this year for your child's class, however, we still need more Class Reps. If you volunteered last year, and would like to continue on – please send me an email.

If you have a child in any of the following classes, please consider being a class rep as it is a very easy role that hardly takes up any time.

PDP, PMR, POA;
1AL, 1CS, 1PL;
2CF, 2EM, 2GM;
3JX, 3LZ, 3RC, 3SK;
4SB, 4SR;
5AL, 5KY; and
6CJ, 6JH, 6MT, 6SS.

If you would like to volunteer, or would like to know more, please email Rebecca Evans our Class Rep Coordinator at serpellclassrep@gmail.com with your name and phone number, and your child's name and class.

UNIFORMS

The Uniform Shop continues to be closed for over the counter sales.

To order uniforms you can do the following;

- Ask your child to collect a uniform order form from the office for you, complete it and give it to them to return to the office.
- Uniform orders will be processed on Tuesdays and Fridays and given to your child to bring home.
- Download the order form from the school website, complete and email it to the school email address serpell.ps@education.vic.gov.au your order will be filled and given to your child to bring home.
- **Payment** can only be made with Visa or Mastercard – **NO CASH**
- **Exchange Process** – If you need to exchange sizes, return the item to the office in a bag and in a re-saleable condition, include a note as to what size you want to change it for, **PLEASE INCLUDE THE CHILD'S NAME AND CLASS** it will then be sent home with your child.

You will find pictures of the uniform and a 'How to Measure' guide on the website to assist you.

Thank you

SERPELL BASKETBALL

Serpell Basketball – grade 5/6 girls needed!

We still have places available for grade 5/6 girls. No experience is necessary. If you are in grade 5 / 6 and would like to play for Serpell this season, please urgently contact Melanie Butcher (ph: 0421 035 901). The games are Monday afternoons between 4pm and 7pm.

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE



Coming this March

HANDBALL

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Whether your child calls it Handball, Downball or 4-Square – it's the game that they all know and love.

Handball, also known as Downball and 4-Square, is every child's favourite sport. The sound of every recess and lunchtime bell signifies another opportunity to compete with friends.

We wanted to give children a chance to prove themselves on the big stage - so we are excited to introduce the Handball Championships.

Register for Handball now through your Parent Portal

For more information visit www.campastralia.com.au/handball

Key Dates

8 - 19 March	Official Practice in After School Care at Your OSHC
22 - 26 March	Service Championships in After School Care at Your OSHC
School Holidays	Rocketeers Championships *More information on our website
2 May	Regional Championships

A message from your Coordinator

This week is leadership week, which means giving the children the opportunity to take leadership roles; we try to help them build their self-confidence in their growth.

We ask them if they like to share their talents with other children by taking the leadership.

Coordinator, Farnaz Alledayood

It's free to register with Camp Australia

To attend our program, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campastralia.com.au or by downloading our Camp Australia smartphone app from the Apple App Store or on Google Play. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.

Prizes

Total prize pool of \$12,000 split across all Regional Champions.

Plus, each Your OSHC and Rocketeers Service Champion wins a Trophy!



Visit www.campastralia.com.au/handball for more information

