Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome back everyone and a very warm welcome to our new families. It’s always great to catch up with everyone and hear about the holidays and see how much taller our students are! There’s been some serious growing going on over the holidays that’s for sure. Our preps have had a lovely day and are settling in to school life. Well done to our prep parents who have done such a great job helping prepare their child for school and to Emily for providing a warm and welcoming classroom for our preps.

Our students all look fabulous in their clean and tidy school uniforms and I LOVE seeing all those plain black school shoes! Thank you all for following our uniform policy. Our students look very smart decked out in their red, white and black.

Here are our preps! Don’t forget preps have Wednesdays off for February.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.
Malmsbury PS is on the Bushfire At Risk register. This means that our school is closed on any Code Red Day and our OSHC service will also be closed. School buses do not operate to our school on a Code Red Day and no staff or students are permitted to be on the school premises. Code Red Days are declared at least 24 hours in advance. If a Code Red is declared during the school week then a note will be sent home from school to alert families to the school closure. If a Code Red is declared over a weekend for a Monday we will use the Konnective app to let you know and we will do our very best to get in touch with you so you know the school will be closed. Please monitor weather warnings over weekends until the bushfire season is over. If you have a smartphone please sign up to use the Konnective app and you can follow us on Twitter - @MalmsburyPS. The Konnective app and Twitter are a quick easy way for us to get information to lots of our parents very quickly.

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE.
Our OSHC service operates every school day from 3:30-6:00pm. Most of our families who use the service receive the Child Care Benefit which means that they are paying around $7 a session – very reasonable. Enrolment forms are available from the notices near the staffroom. You might like to enrol your child so that if you ever need them to attend unexpectedly then they are already enrolled and you just need to give us a call to book them in. Casual bookings need to be made by 11am each day and cancellations also need to be made by this time.

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<th>Term 1 CALENDAR</th>
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<td><strong>FEBRUARY</strong></td>
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BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDERS

► SCHOOL BELL TIMES
Yard supervision starts at 8:40am. Please do not drop your children at school before 8:30am as teachers may not be here and we do not want students unsupervised. Please help us to keep your children safe.
First bell goes at 8:55am. Students are expected to be at school by this time. Please ensure your child is here by then. Arriving late is disruptive to the class, your child will find it more difficult to settle in as they haven’t had an opportunity to meet and greet their friends before school and they will have missed instructions from the teacher.
Families arriving after 9:00am must sign the Late Arrival book at the office & students collect a late pass to take to their teacher.
Recess 11:00-11:30am.
Students are supervised while they sit together for 10 minutes to eat and then go to play.
Lunch 1:30-1:40pm. Students eat inside.
Lunch play 1:40-2:30pm.
End of the day 3:30pm.
A teacher is on yard duty at the end of the day until 3:45pm. If you are running late, please phone the school to let us know and we can reassure your child that you are on your way.

► WATER BOTTLES AND BRAIN FOOD
Please make sure you pack plenty of ‘Brain Food’ in your child’s lunch box—fruit or vegetables, that they can eat during class time. Teachers will be stopping for regular brain food breaks during the learning day. Malmsbury Primary School is a ‘Go For Your Life’ school and we encourage our students to be active and eat healthily. Packing healthy food in your child’s lunch box will help them be at their best for their day at school, keep foods that are high in sugar and fat as occasional treats after school. Every child should also have a water bottle full of water. Students are encouraged to drink water regularly during the day. We encourage our students to bring ‘Nude food’ to school—food that has minimal packaging such as fruit, salads, sandwiches in a reusable sandwich container rather than wrapped in glad wrap.

► ESSENTIAL EDUCATION ITEMS PAYMENT.
This year our parents are asked to pay the school a $150 essential education item payment per child with your third child being $75. This payment covers essential learning materials the children will be using in class such as stationary, text books and work books. These items have already been purchased and are in use in our classrooms. You will receive an invoice for the Essential Education Items payment and we ask that you make sure it is paid by the end of Term 1 – March 24. Our bank account details are below so you can direct deposit your payment.

Many of our parents find it convenient to make regular payments to our school account so they are covering costs as they arise. If you would like to do that our bank details are-
Bank Australia
BSB -313-140
Account No. – 1207 4523
Reference - Surname

► CONTACT AND MEDICAL INFORMATION.
Please make sure we have your up to date contact details including who we contact if we can’t contact you. It also extremely important that we have up to date information about any medical conditions your children have. Asthma plans must be updated every year and the school given the copy signed by the child’s doctor.
BACK TO SCHOOL REMINDERS

► WORKING WITH CHILDREN’S CHECK
All parent volunteers including Parent Club members’ must have a current WWCC. This will enable you to attend excursions and activities if we require parental assistance. If we do not have a WWCC for you, you will be unable to participate. WWCC applications are available from the post office or can be completed online.

► EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES
Our teachers plan extra curricula activities to complement classroom learning, challenge our students to try something new, to expose them to new environments/ideas and to mix with students from other schools. We try to plan these activities so they are spread over the year and to give you plenty of notice as to costs involved. All excursions, camps and activities must be paid for before your child can participate. Here are the approx. camp costs so you can start to make payments if you need to.

2016 Camp dates and approx. costs

| Prep | sleepover at school 15 September = $10 |
| 1/2 | Boomerang Horse Ranch, Daylesford. 3/4 May = $150 |
| 3/4 | Sunnystones Camp, Bacchus Marsh. 16/17/18 May = $250 |
| 5/6 | Urban Camp, Melbourne, 25/26/27 July = $300 |

These costs are only approximate but you are able to start making payments now.

► NEWSLETTER
Our school newsletter is available on a Thursday. It is emailed, available from our school blog http://malmsbury.ps.global2.vic.edu.au/ or you can collect a paper copy from the notice area outside the staffroom. If you would like the newsletter emailed please make sure we have your preferred email address.

► 2016 CURRICULUM DAYS
Curriculum days are pupil free days so we can continue to improve our teaching skills and strategies. Please take note of our Curriculum day dates - March 8th, June 14th and October 12th.

► STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS.
Parents and Guardians are reminded that DET does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Reasonably low cost insurance policies are available from commercial insurers.

Zetland Masonic Lodge 2015 Year 6 bursary presentations.

In January, two of our 2015 Year 6 students attended the Zetland Masonic Lodge in Kyneton to be presented with the bursaries they were awarded at the end of the 2015 school year.

Here are Chiara and Thor with the other award recipients. Congratulations to you both.
Meet our staff

Carolyn Tavener
Principal
Grade 2/3/4SC on Mondays and Tuesdays
P/1 on Wednesdays.
tavener.carolyn.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

Siobhan Moody
Grade 2/3/4SC teacher Wednesday,
Thursday and Friday
moody.siobhan.n@edumail.vic.gov.au

Emily Taylor
Grade P/1 teacher Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday and Friday.
taylor.emily.r@edumail.vic.gov.au

Angelica Davies
Grade 5/6 teacher
davies.angelica.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Deb Henderson
Business Manager
Monday-Thursday
henderson.debra.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

Rainer Canobie-Harris
Grade 2/3/4R teacher
canobie-harris.rainer.r@edumail.vic.gov.au
And of course Jacqueline Lee is back teaching French on a Tuesday. (sorry, I don’t have a photo of Jacqueline yet!)

We are looking forward to working with you to help your child/children achieve their best. A strong home/school partnership is important in helping your child get the most out of their schooling and we are looking forward to your support and involvement.

If you need to meet with any staff member please contact them, or the office, to make an appointment.

If you have an email address that you use regularly then please let us know as email can be a very effective way to communicate with you, and you with us, about your child’s day and/or to ask for an appointment time.
Our School Values

RESPECT – We speak and listen politely.
- We follow school rules.
- We take care of ourselves.

RESPONSIBILITY – We tell the truth.
- We make sure we are ready to learn.
- We look out for each other.

HONESTY- We tell the truth.
- We ‘Name it’ to change behaviours.
- We own our behaviour.

INCLUSIVENESS – We try to understand and be aware of others feelings.
- We treat people as equals.
- We invite people to join in.