Hi everyone,

The Equipment Distribution Centre at The Royal Children’s Hospital supplies medical, mobility and special-needs equipment and products for children and adolescents. The EDC welcomes customers from the whole community, as well as patients of the RCH. The EDC can be contacted on 03 9345 5325 or online via www.rch.org.au/edc.

Anglicare Victoria is offering a 4 week course for parents/carers of a child with ASD. It will start on the 14th July 2016 at Ballam Park Primary School and further information is available from Parentzone Southern on 1300 984 011 or from Joanne Templeton on 0499 007 418 / Joanne.Templeton@anglicarevic.org.au.

This newsletter contains some important information from the Department of Education and Training with regards to Social Media & Your School. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Many thanks to all our staff for providing our students with such a variety of experiences, including visits to the Moonlit Sanctuary and camps just to name a few. These opportunities very much support the student’s social and academic development throughout their schooling at Peninsula Specialist College.

The Australian Youth Orchestra, together with William Barton (ARIA award winning didgeridoo player) and Delmae Barton (Indigenous opera singer) will facilitate music workshops for a group of our students under the guidance of Colin Cornish (AYO CEO). The workshops will run from Monday to Wednesday, followed by a performance on Thursday. A fantastic and exciting experience for our students.

School will finish at the normal pick up time on the last day of term 2, Friday 24th June 2016 and instruction will commence on Monday 11th July 2016. We will advise you of the student free days in term 3 & term 4 in due course.

Can I remind all parents and carers that, although we appreciate the difficulties of dropping your child at school at the right time, no children should be dropped off prior to 8:45am. Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

The newsletters are also available via our Peninsula Specialist College website. Please go to the website and have a look at www.peninsulaspecialist.vic.edu.au

I wish everyone a safe weekend.

Peter
Day One: We left school and we caught the bus to the Werribee zoo. We learnt about the Bandicoots and the zoo keeper showed us where they live and how to keep them away from cats. Then Mia, Maddie, Rhiannon and I went to see the gorillas, cheetahs and the hippos. Then at 2:30 we had the safari train and we saw giraffes, rhinos, camels, zebras and horses. Finally at camp we had dinner. We had lasagne then we went to the lighthouse with my friends and we got drenched. Then we returned to camp and we had showers and we watched ‘Mr Popper’s Penguins’ with a hot chocolate. After that we went to bed.

Day Two: We went on a train to the aquarium and we looked at the fish in the tanks. After that we went to the park and we had fish and chips, I had 2 potato cakes and chips with a fanta. Then we visited the fort and we had a tour around the fort and museum. It was about the army and the stuff that was use in the army in the olden days. We went back to camp and then went outside. Mia and I went to the playground and played. For dinner we had chicken schnitzel with salad. For dessert we had plum pudding with ice cream.

Day Three: In the morning we had breakfast then we packed our bags and we walked along the beach. Sue and I caught the bus to the Queenscliff ferry terminal. We met the others at the lookout tower. Rhiannon and I went up in the elevator, it was a bit frightening but the view was good. We needed to be at the ferry for a 12:30 departure. Sue, Mia, Renae and I went to the top to look at the view but then I started to feel seasick. We arrived at the Sorrento Park and we had lunch and then we went back to school.

By Lily
Our senior students had a fantastic time learning about fire safety and the importance of having a fire safety plan. Winter is a time when there are more fires in houses.

We learnt about what to do if there is a fire in our house, experienced the smoke tent and how hard it is to see through smoke. We need to remember to ‘Get down low and go, gogo’ and to have a meeting place for your family.

Rhiannon learnt about the fire triangle where fuel, air and heat is needed for a fire to burn. If one of these is removed the fire will go out. Lily learnt about the Fire Rating Scale that we see on the signs and what the ratings means.

We all wrote thank you letters to the volunteers to thank them for their time. It was a great excursion.
I am confident.
I can swim.
I can do very good
hand writing.
I can ride my bike.
I can play basketball.

I am confident.
I can swim.
I can play basketball.
I can ride a bike.
I can float in the pool.
Yulendj Laan ‘Making Connections’

‘Womin djeka’ meaning ‘Welcome’, in our local Boonwurrung language.

Our didge group were very excited to meet William Barton, ARIA award winning didgeridoo player and his mum indigenous opera singer Delmae Barton. Students enjoyed playing alongside William and look forward to a collaboration with William, Delmae and Colin Cornish (CEO AYO) with members of the Australian Youth Orchestra next week.

Reconciliation week was celebrated with students working on various projects with their class teachers, resulting in beautiful displays across the school.

The Acknowledgement of Country was introduced into classrooms through a beautiful artwork, thanks Therese.

Aunty Fay introduced the Koorie students to the Boonwurrung language, a wonderful experience for all.

Great work and thankyou Rose for sharing your Indigenous dance skills with the Balam Balam (butterfly) dancers.

Remember to check out the ‘Bunjil the Eagle’ school song on youtube or the school website and enjoy singing a long.

http://youtu.be/X7mPNwu3PU0
Acknowledgement of Country
I would like to acknowledge the
Traditional Owners of this land, the Boon
Wurrung people and pay my respects to
their Elders past and present.
Class 1 and 2 have been doing a great job learning new bike skills.
As part of our Endangered Animals theme, senior classes have had a day at the fantastic Moonlit Sanctuary. There were so many of our native animals to interact with and some really close encounters.
Social Media & Your School

Be a positive role model by demonstrating respectful and responsible behaviours when communicating with and about your child’s school online.

**Times have changed**

A few years ago parents discussed concerns or issues with friends at the school gate. Today, with the internet, mobile phones and social media, discussions between you and your friends can reach a far wider audience than ever before.

Social media can provide an enjoyable way to socialise online and keep you connected with what is going on in your school community.

While these technologies can be great for sharing ideas and keeping in touch, don’t forget that comments about your school community can have greater impact than expected and can have very real consequences for the reputations of individuals including teachers, principals, other parents, students and yourself.

As a parent and carer, you are your child’s first role model when it comes to online behaviour. Make sure your online conduct demonstrates how they can use social media respectfully and safely.

There are also legal implications around what people are able post and share about others. The idea of privacy in the online world can be confusing but essentially posting or sharing personal information about another person online requires consent.

**Top tips for positive and respectful online communication with your school community**

Avoid posting negative comments that identify your school or individuals.

Feedback from the school community is important for schools and the department. Each Victorian Government school has a complaints process for raising concerns. If you have a concern, rather than go online, speak directly to your child’s teacher, Assistant Principal or Principal.

If after having this conversation you feel that your concerns have not been resolved, you can contact the **Community Liaison Officer** at your closest Department of Education and Training Regional Office, who will assist you and the school to find a solution. For more information on raising a concern or issue with your child’s school see:

http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/complainschool.aspx
Social Media & Your School

**Remember:** serious instances of inappropriate online behaviour may constitute a criminal offence and become a police matter. School staff may obtain personal legal advice if they feel that online content seriously impacts their reputation.

**Try not to be emotive or hasty. Keep comments calm and polite.**

Before you post something online about your child’s school ask yourself:

- Am I being a good role model for my child?
- Will this information reflect badly on me?
- Does the school community or individual really need to know this information?
- Is this information relevant, helpful and positive?
- Will this information upset or embarrass the school community or an individual?
- Am I making situation worse?

If things do get heated online consider logging out and taking time to relax.

**Be aware of what you are sharing and with whom.**

Remember that the legal implications around sharing personal information applies to images and video presented online.

As the parent/carer of your child, you have the right to choose who sees your child’s personal information, including their image online. You also have a responsibility to **not share** the personal details of other children.

If you upload photos on social media of school events, be aware of who is in the background. Some parents and caregivers do not want themselves or their children on social media. It is recommended that you never tag a child’s image with any personal information.

If your child’s personal information or image has been shared on social media without your consent you can request its removal by the social network hosting it.

All Victorian Government schools have a policy on if and when it is appropriate to use cameras for filming or photographing school events. You can contact your child’s school for more information.

If you share pictures of your children publicly through online photo-sharing sites and hashtags, remember that once it is shared, you have no control over how it is used or by whom. To avoid these photos being shared by others or used for purposes without your consent, make sure you set up your account security settings to share images only with close family and friends.
Social Media & Your School

Get to know social media.

It may be helpful to research online networks and mobile applications. In particular look at:

- Terms of Use
- Policies and procedures for the removal of content
- Privacy settings be proactive.

If you see something you feel should be removed, flag it. Some sites will allow you to do this anonymously.

Address inappropriate content.

If you encounter inappropriate content online, there are a number of steps you can take:

- Refrain from responding.
- Take a screen capture or print a copy of the concerning online content.
- If you think the content is explicit, pornographic or exploitative of minors, contact the eSafety Commission https://esafety.gov.au/complaints-and-reporting
- Block the offending user.
- If the inappropriate or negative comments are in regards to your child’s school or members of the school community you should also contact the school Principal.
- Report the content to the social media provider (e.g. Facebook). Providers can remove content that contravenes their Terms of Use.

How do I report inappropriate content?

Most website have a ‘report/block this person’ or ‘report/block this content’ function. Links to report or block users can be found below:

Facebook www.facebook.com/safety
Instagram help.instagram.com
Google (including YouTube) google.com/support/go/legal
Tumblr www.tumblr.com/help
Twitter support.twitter.com

Further information

eSafety Commissioner https://www.esafety.gov.au