



Monbulk Primary School

1 Main Road

Monbulk Vic. 3793

Telephone: (03) 9756 6481

Mobile: 0461 434 050

Email:

monbulk.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website:

www.monbulkps.vic.edu.au

Principal: Estelle Alder

School Council President:

Daniel Jansen 0414 225 765

TheirCare Coordinator: Jess

0418 100 553

Uniform Shop

www.spartanschoolworld.com.au

Key Diary Dates 2026

2.40pm Even weeks Friday Assembly All Welcome

1st Term 27 Jan to 2nd Apr

5 Feb Preps Begin 8.50am to 1pm

5 Feb Smile Squad 6 month Fluoride Application for existing clients

5 to 12 Feb Preps early finish 1pm

13 Feb Preps 1st Full Day at School

16 Feb [School Council and AGM](#)

24 Feb District Swimming

4 Mar Whole School Photos

5 to 6 Mar Book Fair

6 Mar Grandparents Day

9 Mar Labour Day Holiday

10 Mar Division Swimming

11 to 18 Mar NAPLAN Gr3 & Gr5

19 Mar Harmony Day

20 Mar Curriculum Day—No Students

2 Apr Last Day Term 1 finish 3.10pm

2nd Term 20 Apr to 26 Jun

Camps

31 Aug–2 Sep Gr5&6 Sovereign Hill

2–4 Dec Gr3&4 Forest Edge Camp

Fair Sunday 22nd November 2026

Issue 1

Monny Mag

Monbulk Primary School's Newsletter

5 February 2026

Welcome back!

We've made a wonderful start to the year as students settle in with our Ready Set Learn program.

Students are learning about our school values and setting the routines and expectations in the classrooms – as well as catching up with friends, meeting new friends and playing together. Our Gr 6 students are proudly wearing their new Gr 6 uniform, looking splendid in their jackets and polos.

Today our Preps had their very first day of school, and had a wonderful time learning in their classroom, and playing with their Gr 6 Buddy.



Please see important annual reminders in this Monny Mag, and on Compass. School Council elections begin shortly.

If you are interested in nominating for School Council please see me, or call our School Council President Daniel Jansen.

Annual reminders and consent required; Privacy Policy, Student Accident Insurance, CSEF applications, ICT Use Agreement

Privacy and Information Sharing Policy - Annual reminder

Please read the Department's [Privacy Policy](#).

The MPS Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy is also available on the school website. <https://monbulkps.vic.edu.au/policies/>

Families sign consent for photo publicity an enrollment. This can be changed at any time. Please contact the Office for more information.

Items to action on Compass and special announcements

Brekky Club every Wednesday and Friday starting at 8.15am in the school kitchen. Everyone welcome, if your child attends Theircare in the morning and would like to attend Brekky club—please contact Theircare to let them know.

Student accident insurance, ambulance cover, and private property brought to school - Annual reminder

The Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents/carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs.

Parents/carers can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property, students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Camps, Sport and School Excursions Fund (CSEF) - Annual reminder

Eligible families can access the CSEF to help families with the cost of camps, sporting activities, excursions and incursions, so that a family's financial circumstances are not a barrier to student participation.

Eligibility details are available on the application form. Families who have a financially means-tested card (eg Health Care Card), or children in Out-Of-Home-Care arrangements.

Contact the Office and download the form for more details

Compass Consent Required through 'Course Confirmation/Payments'

Please log into Compass and provide consent for

- **Walks in the Community - Annual consent**

This provides MPS with consent for students to talk walks in the community throughout the year. Families are still informed of the date, time and location of local walks, without requiring consent for each event.

- **Acceptable Use of ICT and Digital Technologies - Annual reminder & consent**

Consent is required for students to use the school's digital devices, and agree to the acceptable use of equipment and programs at school.

- **Publicity and Media Consent**

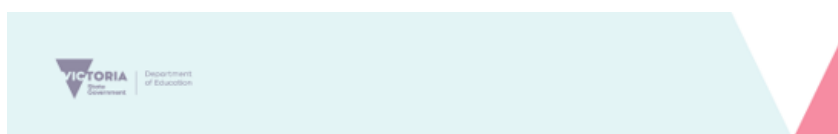
Annual consent for student's names and images to be used across a range of platform from the school.

If you have any questions to wish to talk further please contact the school.

Estelle Alder

Principal

Monbulk Primary School



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund [helps](#) ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card [or](#) [support](#) an out of home care [student](#) you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>



1 | Department of Education

We acknowledge and pay respect of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, their Ngurungaeta-Murrundindi, and their Elders, as the Traditional Owners of the land on which our School stands.



Bushfire At-Risk Register Schools—School Procedure for the bushfire season.

Monbulk Primary School listed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) as we are at risk of bushfire attack. As such, there are special arrangements and requirements for the maintenance and operation of the school.

Fire Danger Ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Monbulk Primary School will be closed when a Catastrophic Fire Danger has been declared by the Bureau of Meteorology for the **Central District**.

Monbulk Primary School may be closed when an Extreme Fire Danger has been declared by the Bureau of Meteorology for the Local Government Area (LGA) of the **Yarra Valley**.

We provide families with as much notice as possible of a closure by letter, SMS message and Compass notifications. Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child.

It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic or Extreme Fire Danger Days.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- School camps and excursions will be cancelled if a Catastrophic Fire Danger Day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

Families are encouraged to develop and enact their Bushfire Survival Plan regardless of school closure. On Catastrophic and Extreme days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's Bushfire Survival Plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking our website and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our Emergency Management Plan.
- If you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's Bushfire Survival Plan.

You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season see:

<https://emergency.vic.gov.au>

<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-fire-danger-ratings/central-fire-district>

- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)

Other News
Happy Snaps of the Preps 1st day at school



Fundraising News

Come and Join the Parent Support Group

Please contact the office if you would like to join a great group of Parents raising funds for our children's educational needs. Your involvement in fundraising activities is always welcome.

Tasty Tucker Thursdays

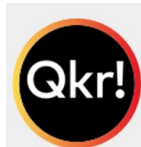
NB: Order by 9am Tuesday on the QKR app

Every Thursday at Monbulk Primary School tasty treats are delivered from Edison's Bakery and Ethans Kitchen. Purchase your lunch order via the QKR app by 9am on Tuesdays. Lunch orders will be collected and delivered to the students classroom by 1.30pm each Thursday.

We urge you to support this fundraiser. Orders placed directly with the Bakery do not count towards this fundraising activity.

****If a student is absent on the day of the lunch order, please contact the office on 9756 6481 or Monbulk.ps@education.vic.gov.au to let us know if you would like us to hold the order for collection. If we do not hear from you, we will distribute the lunch to other students and/or staff. Click the link below to access the QKR App and download it on your phone**

[Home | Qkr! by MasterCard](#)



TERM 1 BREAKFAST CLUB!

FAMILY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Starts Week 2 (4th feb)
- Wednesday and Friday Mornings
- 8.15am-8.45am
- Helping out making toast and cereal!
- Where: School Kitchen

MESSAGE NOW

meg.fox@education.vic.gov.au

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS PROGRAM BREAKFAST CLUB

FOOD BANK THE EDUCATION STATE VICTORIA

Community News

Your Local Environment is looking for Friends!

Do you have an interest in local plants and wildlife? Do you want to take action to help local biodiversity? Do you want an activity that is fun for kids and adults alike? Then you could become an environmental volunteer!

There are over 50 Friends of & Landcare Groups in the Yarra Ranges that do a variety of activities to protect & enhance the native bushland; from planting & weeding, to fauna monitoring, to environmental advocacy, and more.

Spending time in nature has incredibly positive outcomes for physical, emotional and social well-being. Volunteering in the environment helps ease eco-anxiety and connects you to a wonderful community of dedicated locals. If you'd like to join a group, or maybe even start one, please contact the Environmental Volunteer Support Officer at Yarra Ranges Council – environmentalvolunteers@yarraranges.vic.gov.au



Jen Ellison She/Her

Env Volunteer Support Officer, Resilient Environment

03 9294 6287 0417 149 551

J.ellison@yarraranges.vic.gov.au

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FORM 2: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

(Formerly **Schedule 4**: Notice of Election and Call for Nomination)

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Monbulk Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by **4.00 pm on: 20th Feb 2026**

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From March 2026 To March 2028	5

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, there will be no need for an election. If an election is necessary all applicants will be notified and ballot will be sent out on 2nd March 2026 and an election day will be announced.

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

A mandated elected school employee member category – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have **nominee members**.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected student member category, two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, in order to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

act with honesty and integrity – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty

act in good faith in the best interests of the school – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds

act fairly and impartially – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest

use information appropriately – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available

exercise due care, diligence and skill – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school

use the position appropriately – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage

act in a financially responsible manner – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions

comply with relevant legislation and policies – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law

demonstrate leadership and stewardship – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or

the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

standing for election as a member of the school council

encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same electorate that you are eligible for (e.g. a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate).

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.

Generally, if there are more nominations than vacancies a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Consider standing for election to school council.

Ask the principal for instructions if you are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.

Contact the principal if you are unsure about what is required at any stage of the election process.

Nomination forms are available at the school office