

PARENT HANDBOOK 2025



At Monbulk Primary School we build confident learners of outstanding character who are valued members of our community.

Monbulk Primary School

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WELCOME TO MONBULK PRIMARY SCHOOL 2025



Principal
Estelle Alder



Prep/Junior Leader
Jade D'Atri



Office Admin
Cathy Piesley



Middle Leader
Danielle Lamport



Senior Leader
Elizabeth McDonough

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SCHOOL VISION

At Monbulk Primary School we build confident learners of outstanding character who are valued members of our community.

Confident Learners are curious, resilient, take risks, and share their ideas. They know what they're learning, use different strategies to improve and give and receive feedback.

Students of *Outstanding Character* show our values of Courage, Compassion, Co-operation and Respect.

Valued *Community Members* have a sense of belonging, and are accepting and inclusive of others. They understand their responsibilities towards their community, and are actively connected to their school and wider community.



OUR SCHOOL VALUES

Respect, Courage, Compassion and Cooperation.

Acknowledged and Celebrated at weekly school assemblies

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum offered to students is guided by the Victorian Curriculum;

- Literacy – Reading, Writing and Word Study (Spelling)
- Numeracy – Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry, Statistics and Probability
- Science
- The Humanities – History and Geography
- Respectful Relationships – Personal, Social and Emotional Capabilities

Our Specialist subjects taught by our highly qualified teachers include;

- Health and Physical Education
- Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Music
- S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
- Grades 3 to 6 - Stephanie Alexander Kitchen and Garden Program (Cooking, Gardening and Sustainability)
- L.O.T.E. Auslan

Our Cross-Curricular learning includes;

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
- Sustainability
- Global education – Australia's engagement with the world
- Digital Technology – using technology to seek information, communicate and collaborate

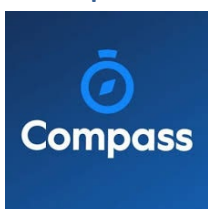
School hours

The first student day is **Wednesday 31st January, 2025**. School commences at 9.00am with students dismissed at 3.30pm. 29th and 30th of January 2025 are Curriculum Days, students are not required at school.

Bell Times

- Music plays at 8.55am for children to line up, greet teacher and enter class
- School begins at 9.00am. Two sessions of learning.
- Morning snack in classroom between 10.30 – 10.40am. Morning Recess (Outside Play) 10.40 – 11.10am
- Learning sessions 3 and 4
- Supervised lunch in classroom from 12.50 to 1.00pm
- Lunch outside play - 1.00 to 1.50pm
- Learning sessions 5 and 6
- Dismissal time is 3.30pm each day

Compass



Compass is our online platform allowing you to access up-to-date information about school events, excursions, camps and your child's progress. We use Compass as the main communication between parents and teachers.

The portal is accessible via the web and also through the Compass School Manager App (available for download via the App store on your device).

Your login details and the installation guide will be provided to you once enrolment has been processed.

REPORTING SCHOOL PROGRESS

A discussion between parents and teachers is the most effective method for reporting progress. We use continuous online reporting through Compass to keep parents up to date with their child's academic progress.

Each semester, we will provide you with the opportunity to book a parent-teacher interview with your child's classroom teacher as well as their specialist teachers. However, if at any time you wish to discuss your child's work or provide information that may be affecting progress or wellbeing, please email your child's teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

WELLBEING

Student Wellbeing is an important part of student learning and development. Our Wellbeing Team includes our Wellbeing Leader, Vikki Noisette and a Chaplain. The Wellbeing Centre is a safe space for children to go and access Wellbeing support, take part in programs, or just spend some quiet time. We also host the Child & Family Wellbeing Program which consists of family wellbeing practitioners located onsite to assist with:

- Practical parenting advice
- Child anxiety
- Linkages to support services
- NDIS assistance
- Individual and group-based support
- Parenting peer support group

School Chaplain

The Chaplaincy Service aims to support the emotional wellbeing of students by providing pastoral care services and strategies that support the emotional wellbeing of the broader school community.

Pastoral care means looking after the personal needs of students, not just their academic needs, by providing general spiritual and personal support.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL NEED TO BRING

School Bag

Please ensure the bag you purchase is a decent size. The bag sold through Spartan is a good size and hard wearing and supports their back.



Library Bag

The preferred item is a cloth bag, approximately 30 x 40cm with a drawstring or carry bag with handles. This will be used to carry borrowed library books.



Big Green Satchel (Grades Prep to 2 only)

To keep notices neat and safe, also to keep classroom readers separate from borrowed library books. Great for sending notes between teacher and parents. The PVC satchel is available from Spartan.



Art Smock

Spartan has for sale ready-made Art Smocks for the junior grades. The senior grades are encouraged to bring an old business shirt or something similar to protect their school uniform.



Chair Bag (Grades Prep to 2 only)

For storage of your child's work. The preferred material for your child's chair bag is denim/heavy cord. When decorating the chair bag with fun designs please include your child's name for easy identification in the classroom. Chair bags are used from Prep to grade 2. Denim chair bags are available from Spartan.



School Green Hat

Hats are required to be worn during outside play times and activities at school (During Term 1 and Term 4)



All these items are essential and will be needed from the first day of school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Punctuality

Help your child to be punctual. School begins at 9.00am and it can be an unsettling experience for young children to walk into class late. If your child arrives at school any time after 9.00am they are required to sign in at the office to record their attendance at school.

If your child arrives home during school hours, please notify the school immediately.

Absences

Do not take your child away from the school ground, other than at home time, without notifying the class teacher and signing your child out at the office. If your child is absent from school for any reason, please update the absent note on compass or phone the office on the morning of absence (there is a designated phone line for this purpose). If you are taking your child on a family holiday, outside school holiday times, please process on Compass or drop a note to the office before you take off.

Illness

If your child is ill, please keep them at home. We have a sick-bay for students suddenly taken ill – please note the emphasis on suddenly. If your child is not fit to attend school, it is not advisable to send them. A sick child cannot learn or function effectively in the classroom

Medicines

If your child is taking or has prescribed medication, we request that you either arrange to dispense the medicines at school yourself, or collect the required form from the office, whereby the medication will be dispensed by the ladies in the office, as per doctor's instructions. Medication should not be stored in school bags during the day. Asthma inhalers are the exception to this rule, however. If your child has been diagnosed with asthma by a GP, please supply the office with their up to date asthma plan.

Sunsmart

The School's Sunsmart Policy requires all children to wear a wide-brimmed hat during outdoor activities, i.e. P.E. and also recess and lunch times, during Terms 1 and 4.

Safety

Encourage your child to follow the basic rules, such as:

- Meeting in a designated place, if you are picking your child up
- Look both ways before crossing the road
- Refuse rides with strangers
- If your child walks to school, educate them in the use of school crossings

Uniform

Uniform is available for purchase online at www.spartanschoolworld.com.au or from Spartan School World Retail Shop located at 1/210-214 Canterbury Rd, Bayswater North. Online orders may be delivered direct to your home for a small fee or a weekly delivery to the school free of charge.

Our uniform includes a Green Bomber Jacket or Hoodie, polo top, checked tunic dress and green hat which can be purchased from Spartan. Other items of our uniform are available from general department stores. This uniform consists of:-

- Green and white checked gingham dress, white skivvy for under tunic, Black pants/shorts/leggings or skirts, Black or White socks and black shoes.

Please note: Open toed shoes including Thongs and Crocs are not considered safe or suitable footwear to wear to school.

House Colours

Forest – Green, Ranges – Red, Lyrebird – Blue, Nathania – Yellow

Your child's house team is displayed on the student Compass profile page.

Embrace the team spirit, students may be asked to wear clothing in their house colour on Sports carnival day and other events throughout the year.

School Assemblies

Whole school assemblies are held each Friday at 3pm. Parents are welcome to attend all assemblies.

Monny Mag – Our School Newsletter

As a means of keeping in touch with what is happening within the school, our newsletter is published fortnightly and available to view on Thursday afternoons via Compass under the school document tab or via our website under the news tab. www.monbulkps.vic.edu.au. Most communications from school are via Compass by email or text notifications.

Scholastic Book Club

Scholastic Book Club catalogues are sent home throughout the year. This is a great opportunity to purchase quality books at reasonable prices. Orders can be made online (see catalogue for details) otherwise cash payments and order forms need to be returned to the school by the due date, in an envelope marked clearly with your child's name and grade. Books generally take about three weeks to be processed and delivered. *Cheques are no longer accepted.* Scholastic Book orders are processed by a parent who volunteers their time.

Curriculum Contribution

The voluntary curriculum contribution for 2024 is **\$275.00** for Prep – Grade 2 and **\$280.00** for children in Grades 3 to 6. This includes access to Netbooks, S.T.E.M. and the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Programs. A tax deductible contribution to our Building Fund may also be made, this supports renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure.

Curriculum contribution details will be forwarded to you in November 2023 or may be viewed on our website in more detail.

Payments can be made via Compass Pay, QKR, Bpay, EFT or Cash.

Please note prices may change for 2025 with School Council approval.

QKR



QKR (pronounced Quicker!) is another online payment platform that we use for fundraising activities, camp and curriculum contributions. Further information about QKR is included in the enrolment pack or at the office. Thursday Lunch orders can only be made from the QKR App, view food menu items in the Canteen Tab.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2025

Term 1: 28/01/2025—04/04/2025 – (Last day dismissal – 2.30pm)

Term 2: 22/04/2025—04/07/2025 – (Last day dismissal – 2.30pm)

Term 3: 21/07/2025—19/09/2025 – (Last day dismissal – 2.30pm)

Term 4: 06/10/2025—19/12/2025 – (Last day dismissal – 1.30pm)

Our school newsletter 'Monny Mag' will keep you informed of Public Holidays and additional Curriculum Days throughout the school year.

- ***Curriculum Days 28 & 29 January 2025***
- ***Prep interviews take place from 30th January to 5th February***
- ***Grades 1 to 6 First Day at School Thursday 30th January 2025***
- ***Preps First Day at School Thursday 6th February 2025***
- ***Labour Day Monday 10 March***
- ***Easter Good Friday 18 April***
- ***Anzac Day Tuesday 25 April***
- ***The King's Birthday Public Holiday - Monday 9 June***
- ***AFL Grand Final Eve Public Holiday – TBA***
- ***Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday - Tuesday 4 November***

Before and After School Care (OSHC)

A 'Before and After School Care Program' is run each day by OSHClub which is located in our beautiful Arts Building. Enrolment procedures and any other details are set out on the enclosed brochure provided by OSHClub.

Ms Casey Patterson is the co-ordinator for OSHClub, phone 0438 568 149.

Monbulk Pre-school

Monbulk Primary School is the licensee of Monbulk Pre-School. If you are interested in enrolling your child at the Pre-School contact them directly on 9756 7379.