

Glen Park Primary School
Providing quality state education since 1872
(153 years serving our community)

EVERY
SCHOOL
EVERY
CHILD

Glen Park Primary School

Contact information:

Phone: 53345360

Web:

<http://glenparkps.vic.edu.au/> Also refer
to our FACEBOOK page.

By T. Shaw principal (1997-2023)



Glen Park Gazette

A big thank you to the staff of Glen Park Primary: Pauline Moody, Linda Duke, Chilanka Siriwardana, Kirrily Urquhart, Katie White, and our supportive school community

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STAFF AT GLEN PARK IN 2024

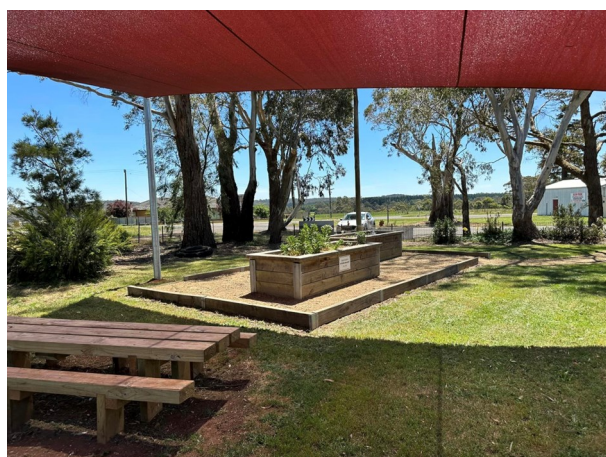
We are lucky at Glen Park to have dedicated hard-working part-time staff. Pauline in the office replaced Heather one day a week this year. We are visited every week by Kirrily who runs our Japanese (LOTE) program and will do Art Therapy once a week in 2024. Katie White is new in the MARC Van this year (replacing Kari who is now teaching in Sale SC) She visits us once a

fortnight. Linda has been our tutor since Alison Middleton retired. She leaves to take a new job at Miner's Rest but will continue music therapy once a week. We also welcomed Chilanka Siriwardana who replaced Ryan as our tech person. I'm still here of course with 2024 being my 27th year at Glen Park. **(Kirrily left and Katie below)**



2023 UPDATE

*Our new shaded picnic table compliments our new decking.
In 2024 we hope to remove old asphalt and replace our
'tired' front fence.*



2023 has been another big year here at Glen Park Primary.

This year we had a focus on science and we invited a real scientist (Heather) from Swinburn to visit for 3 special science days focussing on matter, energy and the human body. They were so popular we will continue the program next year.

We went on an excursion to see Mary Poppins in Melbourne and also a big excursion to Phillip Island to see the penguins. We also went on an excursion to the Aquarium and Old Melbourne Gaol and to the Ballarat Art Gallery and Sovereign Hill.

Once again we are running a tutoring program as well as LOTE, Marc Van visits and music.

Our library is even bigger than before—the best in Ballarat (Have you checked out our Street Library?) and our grounds are looking great (still more to do outside.) More fun excursions and engaging learning activities are planned for 2024.

FIRE SAFETY THIS SUMMER



You can take steps to prepare your home this bush-fire season so that there is minimal damage and more chance that your home will survive. Clearing the area around your home will make it easier for the CFA and give them a safe area for firefighters to defend. Also preparing your home can help protect you as much as possible, in case you can't leave early as planned.

- Keep grass cut to 10cm or less
- Don't have flammable materials surrounding the home. Use non-flammable mulch alternatives in the garden, such as pebbles and rocks. Do not have large shrubs next to or under windows.
- Consider storing your irreplaceable family keepsakes and valuables in a safe location (like a fireproof safe) and moving these out of the area during summer.
- Turn off the gas supply.
- Block the downpipes and partially fill the gutters with water, if time permits.
- Leave your front or access gate open for emergency services to access

These are some steps to take when you have decided you will be leaving:

- Close doors, windows and vents.
- Fill baths, sinks, buckets and bins with water.
- Soak towels and rugs and lay them across external doorways.
- Move furniture away from windows.

The CFA site : cfa.vic.gov.au has excellent resources to help you prepare.

FAIR SCHOOL FUNDING

In the next year, federal and state politicians will decide whether public schools will finally receive full funding.



Right now, 98% of state schools are resourced below the Schooling Resource Standard, which is the minimum amount governments have agreed they need. This is in stark contrast to the (over funding) private education receives.

Getting every public school to that Schooling Resource Standard by 2028 should be every tax payers goal. Rural educators in state schools want the Federal Government to negotiate new agreements with every state and territory that will ensure public schools are fully funded by 2028 and the Albanese Government needs to show leadership and deliver a minimum of 25% of the public schools' funding in every state and territory.

To show your support register as a supporter at foreverychild.au or contact Catherine King's office. To express your support and let her know you want your local state school fully funded.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

When I first started at Glen Park (long ago) it was rare to see any passing traffic on Springs Road or Longs Hill Road let alone pedestrians. In recent times there is a lot of passing traffic and people walking even at 7:00 am. There has been some improvements to our roads but still limited spaces for people to walk. There is some alarming data on road safety in rural Australia.

- Recent data on road accidents shows The rate of serious road-related injury among residents in rural areas is nearly twice that of those in major cities.
- In 2013, just over 11,000 people in regional and remote Australia were hospitalised for injuries sustained in crashes, accounting for 32% of all hospitalised injuries.
- Most rural crashes involve local residents, with only a very small proportion of crashes attributable to international or interstate visitors.

(Data from the 'State of Our Roads' Factsheet from CARRS-Q)

To stay safe while walking it is recommended that you:

- Walk on footpaths whenever they are available or walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible
- Wear bright colours during the day and reflective gear at night
- Keep an eye on car and farm vehicle traffic

For drivers: Keep to the speed limits (especially outside our school) and take road conditions (sometimes quite appalling) into consideration, wear a seat belt, and of course don't use your phone while driving or drink and drive.

Lets all keep safe on our local roads around Glen Park.

A small school on the edge of the city



Photos

- Watching children practice their golf shots from the deck.
- Experiments in light with Heather from Swinburn
- Making hats (literature response to a book we read)
- Visiting the Ballarat Art Gallery



COVID - No time to be complacent

Australia appears to be on the verge of an eighth **COVID** wave, with **Victoria** and NSW residents urged to wear masks to limit community transmission especially amongst crowds.

The Health Department says that this is an expected part of the ongoing evolution of COVID-19 in the community, as our immunity from both infection and vaccination wanes with time and COVID-19 continues to circulate.

During this time, it is especially important that those at greatest risk of severe consequences of COVID-19 are supported to reduce their risk – this includes people aged 65 and above, with a disability or chronic medical condition and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

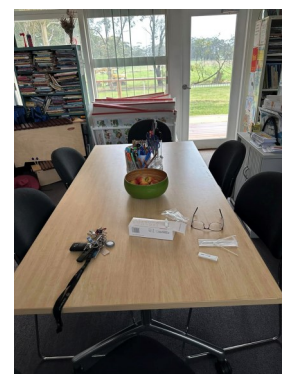
To stay safe it is recommended that:

You **Wear a mask**: a high-quality and well-fitted mask can protect you and others from the virus.



- **Get vaccinated**: stay up to date with your COVID -19 vaccine. Vaccines are available at your GP or local pharmacy.(I'm due for my next one)
- **Let fresh air in**: open windows and doors when you can – it reduces the spread of the virus. We have our air purifiers on all the time.
- **Get tested**: if you have symptoms, take a rapid antigen test (RAT). Free RATs are available at your local council.
- **Stay at home**: if you have COVID-19, you should stay at home for at least five days .

These simple precautions will keep us all safe. I still regularly test at work before school starts.



COMMUNITY NEWS

The Wattle Flat - Pootilla Landcare Group

is a committed community group aiming to enhance and protect biodiversity throughout the local area. The group formed in 2002. Contact Andrew 0419 091 601 or Stephanie 5334 8035 Refer to their web page: leightcatchmentgroup.org/wattle-flat-pootilla



The Brown Hill Bulls

The Brown Hill Bulls Cricket Club is looking for players for the 2020-21 season (their home ground is behind the Brown Hill Pool), If you're interested (and this will be a great year to get involved) contact Phillip Knowles 0407399971. Visit their Facebook page for more information and fixtures.



White Swan

Reservoir

(Opened in 1952)

Current capacity of the White Swan and Ballarat water supply currently at 90% and Daylesford is 99% storage level.



Brown Hill News

For all the news about what's going on in Brown Hill (Such as the Brown Hill Market re-starting up this year in the Brown Hill Hall) **Email**: bhpa@brownhill.vic.au **Phone**: 5334 8014 (evenings only) **Post**: PO Box 1863, Bakery Hill 3354



Dean Hall and Mechanics Institute Inc.



Hall hire contact : Ngaire Mckay 0417111485 or email gmckay3@bigpond.com

Mt Prospect District Tennis Association Inc.

is well renowned for its well groomed sixteen grass tennis courts. It's located in the picturesque town of Creswick and is surrounded by the old Creswick Botanical Gardens. Bridge Street, Park Lake Creswick Victoria 3363 President: Peter Bertoncini - 0468 534 105

