



2016

Puckapunyal Primary School Information Book

For New Families



*2016 School Captains
Tristan Murphy and Jamie Clark*

Alamein Road
Puckapunyal
Vic, 3662

Principal: Kevin Warne
Tel: (03) 5793 1288

Web - www.puckapunyalps.vic.edu.au/
Email - puckapunyal.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au



Puckapunyal Primary School is a community school that encourages families to work closely with teachers and staff to ensure that our students receive a quality education.

We hope this Information Book is useful and comprehensive for all families. Please contact us at any time to discuss our school and how we can cater for your child's education.



Kevin Warne - Principal

Term Dates 2016

January 28th – March 24th
April 11th – June 24th
July 11th – September 16th
October 3rd – December 20th

Contents

Striving for Excellence.....	3
Our School Strategic Plan	6
Curriculum	6
Other Curriculum Areas.....	8
Bring Your Own Device Program.....	10
Enrolment.....	11
Student support.....	13
Student Representative Council.....	13
School Newsletters and Notices.....	14
Parent/Teacher Sharing and Reports	15
Visitors at School.....	15
Book Club	15
Out of School Hours Care Program.....	16
Parent Involvement.....	17
School Council.....	17
Bell times and Term Dates.....	18
School Fees	18
Uniforms	20
Things to remember.....	21



Striving for Excellence

History

The school was originally opened in 1887. The current site is the third site, the first being on the Heathcote Road when the school serviced the farming community. Then it moved onto the base in 1953 and was situated near the current fire station. In 1956 the current school was built.

Since that date there have been at least 4 major extensions and community funded additions comprising of an art room, general purpose room and a canteen. Major interior and exterior maintenance in 1997 saw the whole school upgraded, a new entrance added and the corridor "opened up" with a Perspex canopy above the roofline. In 1999, Puckapunyal was one of 29 Victorian Schools accepted into the 'Self Governing Schools' program that gave it the authority to stand alone but with increased authority to both the Community and the State. A change of government after 9 months ended that program.

In 2009, the school completed a major upgrade with an extension of 6 larger classrooms and a roofed outdoor learning area. In 2011, the school used the Building of Education Revolution Program funds to build new student toilets, new cladding for the front of the school and a new 615sqm Multi-function building. The new BER building (the Pitman-Coffee Centre) comprises new classrooms, school kitchen, cleaner's room, computer server room and a very large multi-purpose hall.

Puckapunyal Primary School is a unique school in Australia. The sons and daughters of Defence Force Personnel, stationed within the Puckapunyal Military Area, consistently comprise 75-90% of its enrolment, and annually up to 50% of the children can transfer interstate and overseas.

The school believes that a child learns most when they feel secure about their home and school environments, and at the same time are developing skills to face unfamiliar situations in the future. The school offers individual attention and special support to all children. Each child's whole education should continue to be valuable to them throughout their life. The school commits all its physical and human resources to help achieve this aim.

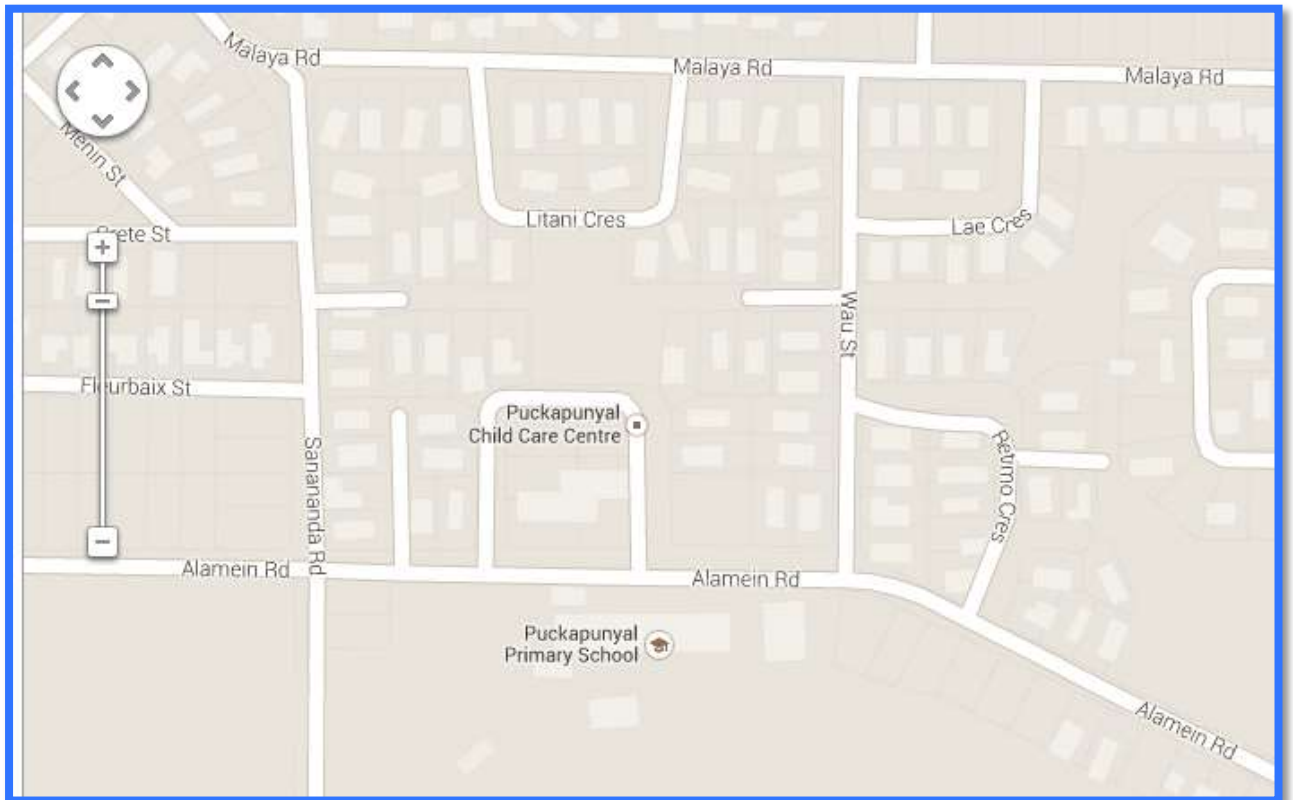
Demographics

The high level of mobility has a significant effect on the continuity of school programs and consequently student achievement. For instance, few children who begin school in Foundation in 2016 will be at the school for 3 years. It is difficult then to be specific about Academic Performance Targets when, for the 4-year life of a Strategic Plan, the school will be dealing with a different cohort each year. The new arrivals, who we must weld together, come from a diverse range of educational backgrounds (each State and Territory of Australia, Great Britain, U.S.A., New Zealand, Malaysia and sometimes Canada and Germany). Prolonged absence of the military (usually male) member of the house during each twelve months over the 2-3 years of a posting can



increasing number of children enrolling from the surrounding farming community and those prepared to drive their children from Seymour, the largest nearby town. In the past students from Defence Force Families comprised 95-100% of enrolment; currently they comprise approximately 75%.

Puckapunyal Primary School is located within the Puckapunyal Military Area, 10 km west of Seymour in Central Victoria. The school is easily accessible and within walking distance of all homes on the Base. A balance of innovative and traditional curriculum programs are provided in a caring, well-disciplined environment, using the many excellent, established school facilities and community resources to support these programs and student achievement.



Puckapunyal Primary School offers a comprehensive educational program to cater for the transient population that it serves. However, with up to 50% turnover each year, no program can ever be regarded as finalised or completed, and the school must constantly attend to its core business of developing literacy, numeracy and all curriculum areas.



Expectations

Teachers are encouraged to set and expect **high standards** from their students. Pride in all aspects of the school's operation is evident through a genuinely open administration and welcoming classroom environment.

The school has developed an excellent relationship with the Australian Army, and enjoys an outstanding reputation of providing for the needs of children of service personnel. This has led to excellent support to the school in many areas.

A **dedicated** and **professional staff** with wide ranging skills and abilities is a vital asset to Puckapunyal Primary School. A comprehensive Professional Development Program for staff ensures that innovative curriculum programs and teaching methods are incorporated into curriculum delivery.

“We are committed to the following strategies

Encouraging friendship,

Improving self-concept,

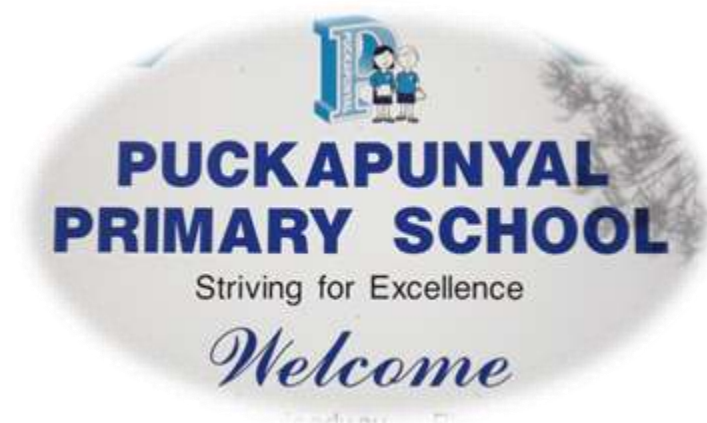
Developing pride in the school,

Promoting sharing, tolerance and compassion,

Developing respect, acknowledging differences,

Applying consistent, logical discipline,

Encouraging responsible play.”





Our School Strategic Plan

As a State Government School, the Puckapunyal Primary School signs an agreement, every 4 years, with the Minister of School Education, to deliver improved learning outcomes to all students. This agreement is called the School Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan makes specific reference to necessary implementation strategies and provides time frames for these processes to occur.

Achievement Goal:

- To maximise the achievement of high quality learning outcomes for Literacy and Numeracy for all students, with a focus on Writing.

Productivity Goals:

- To ensure that the school's staffing and financial positions are sustainable for the life of the new Strategic Plan.
- To develop a four-year school and individual Professional Development Plan based on the strategic direction of the school.

Engagement Goals:

- To enhance the transition and learning pathways of students into, within and out of the school in order to realise students' full academic and social potential.
- To improve attendance across the school in order to realise students' full academic and social potential.

Wellbeing Goals:

- To enhance the wellbeing of all students and strengthen their belief and confidence in their capacity to learn.
- To have all students set personal goals in Numeracy, Literacy and Wellbeing, and to receive and give regular feedback on progress towards these goals.

Our **Engagement & Wellbeing policy**, known as the **“Offer Your H.A.N.D”** initiative supports all students to reach their full potential.

Our **School Purpose** is to provide a caring and supportive environment with a broad, balanced, flexible and differentiated curriculum with high expectations to enable all students in our transient population to reach their full potential.

Our **School Motto** is ‘Striving for Excellence’ which embodies the level of commitment and dedication that we ask of all members of our learning community.

Curriculum

Puckapunyal Primary School follows the Victorian Curriculum F-10 which is the new curriculum for Victorian schools. It incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian standards and priorities.

The Victorian Curriculum is the Foundation to Year 10 Curriculum that provides a single, coherent and comprehensive set of prescribed content and common achievement standards. Schools use the Victorian Curriculum to plan student learning programs, assess student progress and report to parents.

The AusVELS curriculum was the initial incorporation of the Australian Curriculum areas of English, Mathematics, History and Science into the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). The AusVELS curriculum will continue to be available until December 2016.



AusVELS incorporates the Australian Curriculum F-10 for English, Mathematics, History and Science within the curriculum framework first developed for the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). AusVELS uses an eleven level structure to reflect the design of the new Australian Curriculum whilst retaining Victorian priorities and approaches to teaching and learning.

For further detailed information visit <http://ausvels.vcaa.vic.edu.au/>

As part of the curriculum delivery we have an extensive Art program offered by a Specialist Teacher and a focused Library program that provides children with access to a range of Literature and builds a love and understanding of reading materials. The LOTE program introduces and extends students' knowledge of the Indonesian language.





Physical Education is a significant focus. Children are encouraged to participate, further develop their skills and enjoy a variety of sports and physical activities. Many of our children belong to various community clubs both in Puckapunyal and Seymour and use these opportunities to play in club teams and build specific skills associated with their interests.

A particularly strong PE/Sport program operates at all class levels with a variety of sports being catered for, including athletics, swimming, football, netball, cricket, cross country, hockey, t-ball and cycling. The Area Gym assists us with triathlons and swimming. The school is affiliated with the Victorian Primary School Sports Association and competes at District, divisional, Regional and State level in many of the above sports.

Other Curriculum Areas

A strong focus on Australia in **General Studies** has been developed over recent years. All children participate in a Values Education Program. The School Values selected by our school community come under the heading of The 3 R's: **Responsibility** for self, for learning and for belongings (reliability, striving for excellence), **Respect** for self, for others and for the environment (tolerance, caring, kindness, integrity, honesty) and, **Reassurance** of self, abilities, friendships and wellbeing (enthusiasm, confidence, resilience).

Information Technology is an area of the curriculum of which we are particularly proud. Our Computer Lab has 25 computers, all networked with a variety of software for all curriculum areas. As well, each classroom has an average of 5 computers. All of our classrooms have Interactive Whiteboards. We also have banks of laptops which students may access. In 2016 we will fully integrate the use of devices (iPad, iPad mini or iPod touch) into teaching and learning.

Extra-curricular Activities

- Our music program: Choir sessions for all interested students in Years 2-6, optional keyboard classes, school concert and performances at assembly.
- A range of additional lunchtime activities eg: Walking Club, Giant Chess, Lego.
- Diverse sporting opportunities eg: Triathlon, Swimming, Cross Country, Basketball.
- Exciting excursions, incursions and camps eg: Phillip Island, AFL Clinic, Melbourne Museum, Late stays at school.
- Mansfield to Tallarook three day bike ride following the Great Victorian Rail Trail for Years 5 & 6.
- Commemorative services: eg Dawn Service, Shrine of Remembrance observances, Remembrance Day.

Other additional activities include an Art Show, Spelling Bee, Pancake Cooking, Book Launch, Before School Sport and numerous other activities.



All activities undertaken are implemented to enhance student engagement and well-being and this is reflected in the "**Offer your H.A.N.D**" initiative. **HAND** is the acronym for “**Help As Neville Did**”. It recognises the commitment to others of Neville Howse, Australia's first Victoria Cross winner. Neville rescued a wounded man under heavy fire in the Boer War, and again risked his life to rescue wounded soldiers from the Gallipoli beach in World War I. He continued to fight for improved medical services and physical standards for Defence personnel. Situated on a military base, with many children from Australian Defence Force families, we uphold Neville as a role model and strive to make a positive difference. This initiative responds to students' difficult and challenging circumstances that are beyond the reach of traditional programs. This includes, but is not limited to

- provision of transport, food and uniform
- lunchtime, before and after school programs
- additional academic supports responsive to individual needs

Tables tests are conducted weekly. We also have a daily streamed Spelling program for all students and an individualised Mathematics program (Goodger) for Years 3-6 students (and as an extension for some Year 2 students).

Homework aims to build a responsible attitude and a purposeful approach to work and achievement. Parents can provide their child with support, advice, time, space and encouragement.

Camps are held annually for students from Years 2-6. The camping program provides an opportunity for our students to explore new environments, and supports the language, physical education, personal development and integrated studies programs.

2016 Camps

Foundation -Year 1 students will participate in a minor camping experience at a school ‘late stay’.

Year 2 students will have an overnight camp in the school grounds called a ‘stay over’.

Years 3/4 students have planned a 2 night camp to Ballarat which gives them an educational history experience.

Years 5/6 students will attend a 2 night camp to Phillip Island. This will give them a beach and outdoor education experience.

Many Years 5/6 students will also be involved in a 3 Day Bike Tour in the Seymour District.

Bring Your Own Device Program

Puckapunyal Primary School recognises (as many other schools have) the pace at which smartphones and tablets are now part of everyday life, and the opportunities that these devices offer our education program.

Tablets themselves don't change education, but if used as part of the learning process, research has shown that they can help to create a school environment that more fully engages students, fosters creativity and self-led learning, and enhances collaboration.

We are consulting widely with experts from industry and other schools on how to best integrate tablets into our school. During the last half of 2013 we began trialing the use of tablets, primarily Apple devices, in some classes.



The technology trial that occurred in 2013 proved to be very successful. As a result, Puckapunyal Primary School is now a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) school. This means that all classes will be encouraging students to bring their own device, preferably an Apple device, to support their learning.

Students are asked to bring in an iPad or similar device for use in the classroom. The school has purchased a bank of iPad minis that are being used in all classrooms to ensure that every student has the opportunity to access these devices.

Students are expected to:

- Bring their device (fully charged) to and from school daily.
- Leave their device in the classroom at all times.
- Not allow other students/siblings to use their device.
- Take full responsibility for looking after the device (damages etc).
- Download the recommended free Apps (at home), ready for use at school.
- These lists are [available on our website](#).

Bringing a device is NOT MANDATORY. Teachers incorporate the use of devices into curriculum planning. Staff participate in ongoing Professional Development in the use of devices to support student learning. Student and parent forums are held, allowing for

Enrolment

Late each January, when most families have arrived at Puckapunyal, the school holds an Enrolment Day.

The purpose of this day is for parents and students to come to the school, familiarise themselves with the school and the staff, and enroll children in the appropriate level. Families coming from interstate and overseas, or who are concerned with their child's progress, may find it helpful to bring some school reports/work samples on that day to assist with placement. An experienced team in administration is well accustomed to enrolling new students from every State and Territory of Australia as well as from overseas countries such as Canada, UK, USA, Malaysia, NZ and Germany.

In Victorian Education, there are 7 years of full time primary schooling. Our Foundation year is our first year of education and like all year levels, the students are expected to meet certain curriculum standards.

During January, notices advising the date of the enrolment day can be found on our school website, on our school Facebook page, on the school sign, on the school entrance window and on notice boards around Puckapunyal. We will also mail out the date and additional information to any of our new families who have contacted us.

To ensure optimal school planning, enrolments forms will need to be completed and returned to school by December 1st.

The following points are vital in understanding how your child will fit into our school:

1. The Law prescribes that children must turn 5 by 30th April of the year in which they are to be enrolled in the Foundation Year. We have no choice but to support this policy and believe that children can be disadvantaged if they begin school at too early an age. It is far more preferable for a child born in May, June or even late April to start the following year and experience success in those early and subsequent years of schooling.

2. Children are enrolled after the following procedure has taken place:

- Principal & parents (and possibly the student) meet to determine the best class for the child
- Previous reports and work samples are discussed
- The number of years the student has spent in full time schooling is critical
- Age, social and emotional factors are considered
- An appropriate grade level is determined on agreement (a review may be necessary)





Whenever two different year levels are being discussed as possibilities, the lower of the two is preferable for it is easy to move a child up a class after a review. The alternative may have far-reaching detrimental effects on the student.

To encourage a smooth transition for our students, Puckapunyal Primary School has a full-time Defence School Transition Aide and two transition specific programs.

Transition from Kindergarten to the School

Kindergartens in Victoria are part of the Department of Education & Early Childhood and are concerned with the overall development of children and preparation for life at school. Ties with the Puckapunyal Kindergarten and Long Day Care Centre have always been strong. Kindergarten classes visit the school regularly during the year to explore the school, visit classrooms, participate in classroom sessions and become familiar with staff and students. Mums and Dads are welcome to attend these days. School staff prioritises early positive connections with prospective new students, ensuring that medical and educational issues are understood.

There are a series of parent information sessions that develop strong links between families and the school. These also provide an opportunity for sharing of information about the school, and for parents to ask questions about supporting their children with the move to 'big school'.

We are very proud of the extensive 'transition to school' program we run. So proud, that in 2014 this program was recognized by DEECD as one of the 10 best transition programs in Victoria.

Transition from Primary to Secondary School

Several visits to the local Secondary College are made by the Year 6 students during the year. Even those going to a new posting or those choosing an independent school are invited and encouraged to participate. We recommend these visits as they support transition wherever students enroll in secondary school. Teachers visit each other's workplaces, discuss educational programs, standards and expectations and assist the students in the transition process by meeting with them and answering questions. Comprehensive reports are sent on to whichever school an existing Year 6 student is to attend.

Student support

Teachers structure classes and lessons to provide children with a challenge at their individual level. No longer do teachers teach a 'class' with the same expectations for all children. Classes are differentiated to cater for all individual needs.

Sometimes children fall outside (either below or above) the scope of the class level and may be supported in a range of ways.

1. Through the **PSDMS** (Program for Students with Disabilities Management System)
2. Through **intervention** by school-based support staff
3. Acceleration and Extension classes
4. Our differentiated curriculum
5. Defence Tutoring System
6. By input from specialists such as:
 - Child Psychologist / Social Worker
 - Occupational Therapist
 - Speech Pathologist
 - Physiotherapist



Access to these professionals is dependent on funds made available to the school. Access is limited to those with the greatest need. Special programs may be offered, such as Literacy Support, one-to-one or small group intervention and supporting individual students.

The Victorian Education Department supports **PSDMS** (a disability support & funding program) in Victorian Schools. To be eligible for funding, individual children must meet criteria set out by the DEECD.

Parents need to be aware that applications must be supported by extensive medical reports along with other evidence. Funding in Victoria is not guaranteed even if a student has previously been funded interstate. Applications take time to be assessed. Applications for funding are dependent on the date of entry to Puckapunyal Primary School. Closing dates are determined by DEECD.

Every attempt is made to cater for the diverse differences those individuals and groups of students bring to our school. To help our students settle into our school we have a full-time **Defence School Transition Aide**. The role of the D.S.T.A. is to help create a sense of belonging for the student and their whole family. The D.S.T.A. also develops strategies to help children with the complexities of their mobile lifestyle by introducing welcome and farewell rituals, helping to develop social groups and providing support to families. Another important part of this role is to encourage and develop informal support networks and act as a conduit between home and school.

Student Representative Council

Each classroom has a **representative student on the Council**. Representatives are elected by their classmates, so it is quite an honor to be selected. Some of the very young classes also have an older student to represent their interests.

Ideas and suggestions from the SRC are taken to the adult School Council meetings for support. As a student, it is your chance to have a ‘voice’ in the school.

Annually the SRC members attend a School Council meeting and have the opportunity to address the School Council.



SRC responsibilities include:

- Fundraising
- Being an outstanding role model to all students
- Identifying areas in need of repair, attention or beautification
- Creating and leading lunchtime activities
- Providing a forum to present student ideas

Student Comments:

“It’s really cool, because kids in the school know your name and ask for you.”

“I wear my special SRC badge every day, and I am allowed to keep it at the end of the year.”

“You learn to speak up in front of others, and it feels good helping people in the playground.”

School Newsletters and Notices

Our newsletter is called '**Wednesday Notes**' and is our direct weekly contact with our community. To keep families aware and prepared for coming school events, we send home the newsletter and any notices when necessary. The eldest child in the family has the responsibility of taking home such notices. The newsletter can also be sent to families through email if requested.

Parents are requested to read our newsletter carefully, and promptly return any slips. Wednesday Notes are normally sent home every Wednesday. School Council may also use the newsletter when they wish to have contact with the community. We also use our school website www.puckapunyalps.vic.edu.au and Facebook page www.facebook.com/PuckapunyalPrimarySchool and school sign to communicate with families.

Parent/Teacher Information and Reports

To give parents the very best opportunity to be involved with their child's education, we conduct formal Parent/Teacher Interviews throughout the year and send home Student Reports.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Week 7 of Term 1
Last week of Term 2
End of Year (if requested)

Student Reports

End of Term 2
End of Term 4



Puckapunyal Primary School uses student reports and formal interviews to report student progress in a useful and comprehensive manner. At any stage of the year, parents and teachers may request an interview to raise a concern and we encourage close links between families & school as we strive to work together to achieve the best outcomes.

Visitors at School

We welcome **visitors** to our school. They are required to sign in and out of the school at the front office.

Book Club

Book Club operates at Puckapunyal Primary School. This book club is sponsored by the Ashton Scholastic Book Club company. Families, children & teachers have the opportunity to purchase books, magazines and related material. New Ashton flyers usually arrive monthly. Completed order forms and correct money should be placed in a sealed envelope and taken to the office. Book Club is run by a parent volunteer.



Out of School Hours Care Program

The Out of School Hours Care Program is run by Mission Australia Early Learning Services and is located at the Puckapunyal Multi -Function Centre across the road from the school. It provides a state-of-the-art Centre that provides a safe, secure and friendly environment for all children who require care before and after school. It aims to provide activities which meet the needs of each child. Children must be of school age.

- art and craft
- cooking
- indoor/outdoor games
- music
- reading
- special activities

The program operates daily during the school term:

Morning Session – 7.00 am – 8.45 am

Afternoon Session – 3.30 pm – 6.00 pm

Participating students are accompanied to school and collected from school by Mission Australia staff.

For more information please call the Director on 5735 7589



Parent Involvement

We are an ‘open’ school, encouraging **parent participation**.

We believe that the success of any child’s education is the direct result of a close working relationship between families and school staff. Education is the responsibility of students, parents and teachers. We therefore encourage all families to take an active role in their child’s education.

How Can Families Participate?

- Visit the school during special days/nights eg. Family Fun Days, Sporting Events, Education Week activities, Monday morning assemblies, etc
- Listen to your child read at home and fill in the school home reading booklet
- Be aware of your child's homework and home reading requirements
- Attend Parent Information Sessions and Forums
- Read weekly newsletters, notes and occasionally peruse the school website
- Follow the school’s Facebook page www.facebook.com/PuckapunyalPrimarySchool
- Attend official Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Pop in and chat to your child’s teacher - get to know your child’s teacher
- Organise interviews if there are concerns
- When possible, volunteer for working bees, fundraising activities, class reading, excursions, canteen etc
- Be aware of school policies, eg. School Uniform Policy
- If you have the time, be involved with various committees eg. School Council, Fundraising, etc
- Give the school feedback when necessary
- Talk to your child about school
- Become part of your community’s school

School Council

Puckapunyal Primary School Council allows for the election of up to 8 non DEECD members, up to 6 DEECD members including the Principal and up to 2 co-opted members.

The school council’s objectives are to:

- Assist in the efficient governance of the school.
- Ensure that decisions made are always in the best interest of students.
- Enhance the educational opportunities of the students of the school.



- Ensure the school and the council comply with any requirements of the DEECD Act, the regulations, a Ministerial Order or a direction, guideline or policy issued under this Act.

The desired education program of the school is thus developed through the process of consultation and negotiation among those vitally affected. The adopted policies therefore, reflect the values and the goals of the whole school community.

Elections are held for School Council each year in March. Please consider becoming actively involved in your school through School Council membership.

Bell Times and Term Dates

The School yard is supervised from 8.50am in the morning. Please do not drop your children at the school before this time. Teachers meet each morning for a whole staff briefing from 8.45-8.55am and are unavailable before 8.50am. An Out of School Hours program exists for those parents needing care before and/or after school for their children at the Multi -Function Centre across the road.

Note: For the month of February, Foundation students do not attend school on Wednesdays.

School Assembly is held each Monday morning at 9am – Parents are encouraged to attend.

Bell Times

- 9.00 Session 1
- 10.00 Fruit snack
- 11.00 Recess break
- 11.30 Session 2
- 1.30 Lunch time – children eat in class
- 1.45 Lunch break
- 2.30 Session 3
- 3.30 School dismissed



Please advise your child's teacher or the office if you child is absent from school.

2017 Term Dates

- Term 1: 30 January (teachers resume)
31 January (students resume) to 31 March
- Term 2: 18 April to 30 June
- Term 3: 17 July to 22 September
- Term 4: 9 October to 22 December

Open Day 2017

Tuesday 24 January 2017 9.00am – 2.00pm

2018 Term Dates

- Term 1: 30 January to 29 March
- Term 2: 16 April to 29 June
- Term 3: 16 July to 21 September
- Term 4: 8 October to 21 De

Parent Payment Charges

Under the Education and Training Reform Act (2006), instruction of the standard school curriculum (Victorian Curriculum) to all students in government schools is free. However, School councils can charge fees to families for goods and services provided by our school that are called **Essential Student Learning Items**.

Fees for **Essential Student Learning Items** are mandatory fees. Puckapunyal Primary School makes every effort to keep the cost and number of items that need to be purchased to a minimum. Families will receive an invoice and can pay off the fees throughout the year. Any family experiencing any financial difficulties can also contact the school office to organise flexible payment arrangements.

Yearly School Fee for Essential Student Learning Items - \$200 per student

Includes: classroom stationery, classroom and Library books, Visual Arts resources, sporting events (resources, ribbons and affiliations), computer headphones, photocopying, Mathematics subscription, and incursions (visiting artists).

As part of the Essential Student learning Items, each child will be fully supplied with stationery; i.e. all books, paper, pencils, textas, glue, etc. at the beginning of the year and throughout the year when necessary. This ensures materials supplied are of a uniform nature and that books are the correct line and page requirement. Additionally, all students are then ready to launch into the academic year from day 1 when all students are issued with the same type of classroom materials, at the same time. Families have indicated that they appreciate stationery being supplied by the school.

Resources (which can include books and materials) are necessary for all classrooms, Library and Art Room. The school organises many sporting events for all students that require sporting gear, ribbons, medals, affiliation costs, etc.

The school also organises incursions for all students that sees **2 visiting artists** perform at our school. The type of visiting artist is specifically selected to support classroom programs and themes. They will be spaced apart and involve a range of genres.

Voluntary Contributions are not mandatory and we cannot force anyone to contribute. However, Voluntary Contributions enable the school council to improve the school's resources and therefore improve the learning opportunities for our students. They allow the school to invest in additional programs, resources, support materials and staff to enrich the programs offered. They enable us to ensure that our students have exceptional opportunities compatible to any other school in the state.

Voluntary Contribution Target - \$50 per student

Can include: play equipment, ground and facilities maintenance, classroom aides, classroom books, Visual Arts resources, tutoring programs, '1 on 1' teaching programs, swimming programs, extra curricular activities, sporting equipment, etc.

Uniforms

Students at Puckapunyal Primary School are required to wear a school uniform. This is endorsed by School Council.

Puckapunyal Primary School believes that:

- school uniforms ensure students look neat and our students and community take great pride in our school uniform
- students adopt a sense of pride in appearance when wearing school uniform
- students adopt a sense of belonging to the school when wearing school uniform
- school uniform decreases comparison of popular versus unpopular clothes

Uniform Price List

Short Sleeve Polo	\$25
<i>(new design)</i>	
Long & Short Sleeve Polo	\$16.50
<i>(old design clearance)</i>	
Shorts	\$18.00
Windcheater/Jumper	\$20.00
Jackets	\$30.00
Waterproof Jacket	\$35.00
Padded Track Pants	\$22.00
Girls' Long Pants	\$25.00
Hats	\$12

Uniforms can be purchased on the enrolment day held just prior to the beginning of term 1, and from the school office throughout the year. Second Hand Uniforms are also available.

Girls Uniform:

- Navy blue school jacket or navy blue windcheater
- Navy blue plain or pleated shorts or navy blue track pants.
- Puckapunyal school blue polo shirt or plain school blue polo shirt or school blue or navy blue skivvy.
- Navy blue wide brimmed hat with school logo (compulsory between Sept and April).
- White, blue or grey socks

Boys Uniform:

- Navy blue school jacket or navy blue windcheater
- Navy blue shorts or navy blue track pants.
- Puckapunyal school blue polo shirt or plain school blue polo shirt or school blue or navy blue skivvy.
- Navy blue wide brimmed hat with school logo (compulsory between Sept and April).
- White, blue or grey socks.



Things to remember

A named **Art Smock** or any other suitable clothing protection is required for all students and must be worn in the Art Room.



A **Library Bag** is required for book borrowing. This could be a clearly named plastic bag, environmental bag or decorated old pillowslip.

Each day students require a **drink bottle** filled with water, a suitable **lunch box** filled with a fruit snack, recess snack and lunch and a **school wide brimmed hat** (between September and April).



Permission forms and payments should be returned to the office in a clearly labeled envelope.