



SEBASTOPOL PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are **READY TO LEARN** when we are;
RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE & SAFE
INFORMUS NO. 1 February 3rd 2022

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Welcome to our new staff members

Introducing **Sophie Cullinan** Year 3/4/5 teacher

My name is Sophie but most people will call me Miss C. This is my fourth year as a teacher and prior to commencing at Sebastopol Primary School I taught Maryborough Education Centre Years 1 - 4.

I love to bake and go camping with my partner Ryan, I have 2 dogs named Teddy and Gunner and my all-time favourite movie is Shrek.

I love to play netball and have been playing since I was 8 years old.

I am so excited for my year at Sebastopol. I'm looking forward to getting to know the community and all the students and staff. I'm very passionate about creating a learning space that encourages a love of learning in a calm environment.

Bring on a fun, happy and healthy 2022.



Maddie Morrish Year 1/2/3 Teacher snapshot intro

I previously taught Early Years classes at the Ballarat Specialist School. My hobbies are playing netball, camping, going to the beach and catching up with friends.

My daily exercise of choice is taking my puppy Oakley for his walk.

I look forward to getting to know and learning together with all our amazing staff, students and families.

Renai – Education Support Officer

Before I started as an ESO at Sebastopol Primary School, I completed a Certificate IV in Education Support and did the professional placement at Sebastopol Primary. I love spending time with my family; we play board games, sport, and multiplayer video games together. I also enjoy watching Disney/Pixar movies; my favourite is The Little Mermaid. My exercise activity of choice is playing backyard sports. I enjoyed supporting the students during my placement last year and am looking forward to continuing to do so as an ESO this year.

Lori - Education Support Officer

I completed by Certificate IV in Education Support and worked at Beaufort P-12. I am looking forward to sharing And learning with SPS students. I love walking in nature and any thing Harry Potter.



Lori

Renai

SEBASTOPOL PRIMARY SCHOOL Warreen Street, Sebastopol Victoria 3356

Phone: 03 5335 8157 **Email:** sebastopol.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: www.sebasps.vic.edu.au

Facebook: [SebastopolPrimarySchool](https://www.facebook.com/SebastopolPrimarySchool)

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2022 School Year!

Students

This year we are excited to have an increased enrolment with a straight Prep class for 2022. It is terrific to have Audra Lawes back as a full time class teacher. Our current 2022 enrolment is 80 students, with four class groups., Prep, Year 1/2/3, Year 3/4/5 and Year 5/6.

Maintenance and Security

Further maintenance has been undertaken inside the building over the break with the painting of floors in the tunnel and student toilets. We have appointed Angela as our new garden and ground maintenance person and she is currently taking control of the weeds, mowing and removing debris and mess left by random people in the grounds over the summer break. Sadly, we had school security alarms activated several times over the holidays with damage to over 100 louvre glass panels and electrical systems on the school roof. If you see people on the school roof or grounds, please contact Police on triple 000.

Gratitude and Support

My thanks to over 90% of families who have organised their book order through the new system at Campion Books. It is great to have support for this new process. We needed to change to previous arrangements due to changes in the DET Parent Payment Policy.

We have had a lovely time catching up with students as they attend their interviews for a wellbeing check in and reading assessment. Thank you to those students who brought in a book from their holiday reading. It has been lovely to see our students again.

Eureka Mums have once again supplied us with School Back Packs loaded with stationary, lunch boxes and drink bottles, so if anyone needs replacement 'Tools for School' please contact the office.

We also have some new and 2nd hand uniforms if you need some extra school clothing.

COVID-19

My wish at the end of 2021 were for families, children and school staff to have a break without the ongoing distractions of managing COVID-19 as a daily part of our lives. We all hoped that we would return to a somewhat normal 2022 school year however this has not eventuated. Therefore, we must continue to be COVIDSafe at school and in the community.

The first 4 weeks of Term 1 2022, include:

- free rapid antigen testing, these were distributed at the Student Teacher Interviews
- reporting and managing positive results
- ventilation
- vaccination

The focus on the "3Vs" of Ventilation, Vaccination, and Vital COVIDSafe steps, including wearing masks, staying home when unwell, and physical distancing. For the first 4 weeks of term, twice-a-week testing on school days will be

strongly recommended for mainstream primary and secondary students. Testing will be conducted at home, and students and staff must report any positive results. [Reporting and managing positive results](#)

If **students** receive a positive test result at any time, they must report this through the [Department of Health online system](#) or via the coronavirus hotline at [1800 675 398](#). We have included this information on the packs that have been distributed. **Parents** must also report a positive result to their school, either through the [Student COVID-19 Test Portal](#) or by phone or written notification; this is so we can support you, record that they will be absent while in 7-day isolation, and let the rest of the school community know there has been a positive case onsite and that they should monitor for symptoms. **The student who has tested positive must isolate for 7 days. We are not required to individually identify the close contacts of a positive case. Instead, schools need to inform the school community, at the earliest opportunity, that:**

- there was a positive case onsite
- all members of the school community should monitor closely for symptoms
- students should continue with twice-a-week or 5-times-a-week rapid antigen testing.

Staffing arrangements

Department advice is that it is likely that some schools will experience workforce pressures because of staff returning positive COVID test results. If this occurs we will:

- (A) use normal staffing procedures to cover staff absences
- (B) engage casual relief teacher staff or
- (C) liaison with local regional/area staff to determine the availability of qualified central/regional staff to provide support for student supervision.

Ventilation

Ensuring adequate ventilation is one of the most effective measures to keep schools safe. We have received the air purifiers and installed them in high use areas.

Vaccination

On the advice of the Victorian Chief Health Officer, school staff have been added to the list of workers in key sectors who must receive a third dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Families are asked to arrange a vaccination for children aged 5 years and over.

For more information, including how to book and information about walk-in vaccination sites, refer to [COVID-19 vaccine third dose](#).

Thank you for reading through this lengthy report. Enjoy the mild weather and time together.

Thank you for your support for a great start to the 2022 School Year. 'The harder we work, the luckier we get.'

Michelle Wilson

Principal

Business Manager

CANTEEN - CLOSED

Our School Canteen is serviced by Stewarts Bakery in Midvale Shopping Centre, unfortunately Stewarts Bakery is currently closed due to fire damage that occurred during the school holidays.

Our School Canteen normally runs Monday and Fridays, we plan to recommence this as soon as we can.

Lunch orders are to be placed in a brown paper bag, with students name, class and order written. Money to be placed inside. All lunch orders are to be into the canteen by 9.15am

CSEF

CSEF stand for Camps, Sports, Excursion Fund. If you hold a Health Care Card you may be eligible for this funding. Application forms will be sent home soon.

ATTENDANCE

If your child is away from school please let the front office know on 53358157 each day they are away.

If your child has tested positive for COVID19 you need to fill in two forms online. I will send out an email with quicklinks to these portals and further information.

Bookclub

Magazines have been sent home for Issue 1 2022, or you can access the current catalogue online at <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/> Orders with money are due back to school by Thursday 17th February to ensure book availability.

Parent Payments

Parent Payments can be made via Centrepay, which is available in your MyGov account, regular payments can be set-up. We also have Bpay (if you already have a code), Direct Debit details or Eftpos facilities. Cash payments can be made, however electronic is preferred.

As part of our children's school requisites we ask families to bring along boxes of tissues and paper towel for the classrooms. We are in the cold and flu season, if you haven't already brought these in could you please do so and drop them in the classroom or at the office. Thanking you.

Newsletter

Our school newsletter goes out fortnightly on a Friday. A hardcopy will be sent out for the first edition of each term, after that an email version will be sent. Please ensure that you regularly check your emails as a lot of school communication is forwarded this way.

We also use facebook and have a great informative website that will be updated for 2022 soon.

Term 1 Dates

Fri 4th Feb	Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 9th Feb	No Prep Students
Fri 11th Feb	Assembly 2.30pm
Tues 15th Feb	School Council Meeting 6.30pm
Wed 16th Feb	Prep Assessments
Thurs 17th Feb	BookClub Orders due
Fri 18th Feb	Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 23rd Feb	House Sports Carnival (Prep students are invited, more information to follow)
Thurs 24th Feb	SWPB Celebration
Fri 25th Feb	Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 2nd Mar	Prep Assessments
Fri 4th Mar	Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 9th Mar	Prep Assessments
Fri 11th Mar	Assembly 2.30pm
Mon 14th Mar	Labour Day Holiday
Tues 15th Mar	School Council Meeting A.G.M. 6.30pm
Wed 16th Mar	Prep Students Commence Full Time
Fri 18th Mar	Assembly 2.30pm
Fri 25th Mar	Assembly 2.30pm
Fri 2nd April	Assembly 2.30pm
Thurs 7th April	SWPB Celebration
Fri 8th April	Assembly 1.30pm Easter Raffle End of Term 1 2.30pm

Term 2

Mon 25th April	Anzac Day
Tues 26th April	First Day Term 2
Fri 24th July	End of Term 2

Term 3

Mon 11th July	First Day Term 3
Fri 16th Sept	End of Term 3

Term 4

Mon 3rd Oct	First Day Term 4
Fri 20th Dec	Last Day Term 4

Return To School - Important Parent Information

[Victoria's Back-To-School plan](#)

The measures set out in the Victorian Government's Back-To-School plan will ensure every possible effort is made to ensure staff and students are safe and that schools remain open.

The plan maintains the importance of the 3Vs: Ventilation, Vaccination and Vital COVIDSafe steps and introduces some new measures.

[Rapid antigen testing](#)

Free rapid antigen tests will be made available for all staff and students in Victorian schools for the first 4 weeks of Term 1 2022. Rapid antigen testing will be voluntary for all primary, secondary and specialist school students and staff.

Sebastopol Primary School is encouraging twice weekly testing on a Monday and Wednesday morning prior to eating/drinking or brushing teeth.

Tests are provided in packs of 5 individual tests. Parents/carers have been provided with one pack for each child for use during the first two weeks of school.

Test kits for weeks three and four will be delivered to the school in a separate delivery. Where parents/carers are unable to attend the school to collect the tests, a pack can be provided directly to a student to take home.

If students receive a positive test result at any time, they must report this through the Department of Health system ([Rapid antigen tests | Coronavirus Victoria](#)) <https://dhvicgovau.powerappsportals.com/rapid-antigen-test/> or via the coronavirus hotline at 1800 675 398.

Parents must also report a positive result to their school, either through the COVID Test [portal https://covidtest.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F](https://covidtest.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F) or by phone or written notification; this is so the school can support them, record that they will be absent while in 7-day isolation, and let the rest of the school community know there has been a positive case onsite and that they should monitor for symptoms.

[Management of confirmed cases and household contacts at school](#)

Updated approach to managing a confirmed case of COVID-19 in schools

Where a student or staff member is identified as a positive case, individual education contact tracing will end. The revised process is set out below.

Students who report a positive result must isolate for seven days and not attend school during that period.

Where a student is a household contact of a positive case (that is, they have spent more than four hours with someone who has COVID-19 inside a house, accommodation, or care facility) they must inform the school and isolate for seven days and not attend school during that period.

The school will notify the school community when a student or staff member has returned a positive COVID-19 test result and had attended the school. The notification will include:

- Dates of attendance
- Affected group/cohort/year levels
- Any relevant extracurricular activities

Students refrain from returning to school if they remain symptomatic, unless it is known that their symptoms are caused by an underlying health condition or medication.

[Student attendance](#)

All students are expected to attend onsite unless they are formally registered as being home-schooled. Parent preference is not an approved reason for students to be absent due to COVID-19.

Schools are not expected to provide a full remote learning program in these circumstances.

If students who are working from home due to COVID contact this ABC link is great and worth saving as a tab or bookmark on your favourite device.

<https://www.abc.net.au/education/newsletter/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
WEEK 1	24/01	25/01	26/01 Australia Day Public Holiday	27/01	28/01 Teachers Start Back
WEEK 2	31/01 Assessment Interviews	1/02 Assessment Interviews	2/02 Assessment Interviews	3/02 Term 1 Starts	4/02 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 3	7/02	8/02	9/02 Prep Assessments	10/02	11/02 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 4	14/02	15/02 School Council Meeting 6.30pm	16/02 Prep Assessments	17/02 Bookclub orders due	18/02 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 5	21/02	22/02	23/02 House Sports Carnival Prep Students invited to attend	24/02 SWPB Celebration	25/02 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 6	28/02	1/03	2/03 Prep Assessments	3/03	4/03 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 7	7/03	8/03	9/03 Prep Assessments	10/03	11/03 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 8	14/03 Labor Day Public Holiday	15/03 School Council AGM 6.30pm	16/03 Prep Students Commence full time	17/03	18/03 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 9	21/03	22/03	23/03	24/03	25/03 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 10	28/03	29/03	30/03	31/03	1/04 Assembly 2.30pm
WEEK 11	4/04	5/04	6/04	7/04 SWPB Celebration	8/04 Assembly 1.30pm End of Term 1 2.10pm

Newsletter

To access our fortnightly school newsletter visit our website at <http://www.sebasps.vic.edu.au/>
Please also subscribe to our Newsletter email list at our website to receive a notification when our newsletter is ready.

2022 TERM DATES

Term 1: 31st January to 8th April
Term 2: 26th April to 24th June
Term 3: 11th July to 16th September
Term 4: 3rd October to 20th December

2023 TERM DATES

Term 1: 27th January to 6th April
Term 2: 24th April to 23rd June
Term 3: 10th July to 15th September
Term 4: 2nd October to 20th December

BELL TIMES

8.50 am - Music Play
9.00am School starts
11.00 - 11.10am Children eat Lunch
11.10 - 11.40 Lunch Break
1.40pm - 2.10pm Recess
3.10 Dismissal
Last day of Term 2.30pm Finish