

## ***Fitzroy Community School***

### **PRACTICAL POINTS FOR PARENTS**

#### **ARRIVAL TIME**

Official start time is 8.45 am although staff are on duty as from 8am.

#### **MORNING MEETINGS**

Morning Meetings are an important part of our school life and ethos wherein many valuable issues are discussed. **We expect all children to attend and, of course, be punctual.** Children and staff are called to the morning meeting at 8.50am. Parents and visiting teachers are welcome. Meetings occur on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Please don't be late for school.

#### **LUNCH MUNCH**

The children do not bring lunch to school. They make it here. Sometimes there is a hot meal.

This sharing of common food is a key feature of this school. It contributes to the development of living skills and to a family atmosphere.

We ask parents to support this practice with their children because of the community spirit it helps create. Please make **community spirit** the priority and leave food fads at home. Of course, if your child has special dietary requirements, please let us know.

Staff, parents and friends, please understand that you too are invited

to partake in the consumption of school food and drink in the school kitchen at any time.

School adults please tidy up after yourselves when using the kitchen. Adults who informally coach the children in domestic skills are appreciated. We would love it if all parents occasionally helped clean the kitchen, as it sets a great example to the kids.

#### **DAILY FINISHING TIME**

School finishes at 3pm. Please collect children for the homeward journey by 3:20pm. After school activities run until 4.15pm. When your child has an after-school activity please be at school five minutes before it ends to pick them up. There is no supervision outside of these times and activities.

#### **WEDNESDAY SWIMMING**

Our first swim will be on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> and every Wednesday from then on, so bring bathers and a towel. While the weather is hot swimming is outdoors at Fitzroy Pool, from April we go to the Collingwood Pool (in Clifton Hill). Our swimming program is greatly assisted by parental help, so if you are able to come along, please get in touch. Children swim most weeks of the year.

#### **HATS AND SUNSCREEN**

Hats and sunscreen are a must. Please make sure sunscreen is applied before school. Bring a named HAT for all of 1st and 4th term. And if anyone has a few to donate, that is great for those

whose dog ate theirs on the way to school!

### **LOLLY DAY**

On Wednesday afternoons only, children may go to the corner shop for lollies. Prep to Year 2 must wait to be escorted by teachers or parents.

At Brunswick Street we recommend Tinies bring \$1.20, Littlies \$1.50 Juniors \$2.00, Middlies \$2.50 and Biggies \$3.00, while at Normanby Avenue all children are \$2 on this day. There are to be no lollies at school at any other time. NO chewing gum EVER!

### **ROAD SENSE IS ESSENTIAL**

We are an inner urban school and we front onto a busy street. We have many outings. Please ensure your children understand that the road is dangerous and that they are not to cross any street without an adult. Please also tell your child not to wait outside on the street but do feel free to encourage them to wait in the library (Brunswick Street) or front garden (Normanby Avenue) if you want a quick get-a-way.

### **Wednesday Cook-Up**

We love the Wednesday BBQ tradition, and hope that you can be part of it from time to time. If you'd like to offer your time, please let us know.

### **CONCERNING BOOTS AND SHOES AND EXPENSIVE CLOTHES**

There tends to be a bit of an agonised search for footwear and other gear at the end of the school day, especially for small people and

especially on hot days. To avoid an annoying end to the school day, we recommend several pairs of good quality shoes from the opportunity shop – the same goes for socks and other clothes.

Most items do tend to resurface eventually, but not always. Also, socks do not need to match!

### **PARENTS, KEEP IN TOUCH!**

Parents are welcome to visit the school at any time on any day. Parents who are not able to visit regularly are urged to take at least a couple of hours per term to spend time at the school.

If teachers have any concerns, they will contact parents. Similarly, parents are encouraged to initiate a chat with teachers or to make an appointment if desired – even if only for an update.

Also, every Wednesday there is an afternoon tea for adults (and pre-schoolers) from 3pm-4pm in the school kitchen. We ask that parents assist us in ensuring that this is a child free space and so remains a time when the adults can have a uninterrupted chat, which many appreciate.

[On the (mercifully infrequent) occasions that parents have grown anxious about something, it is almost always the case that they have not spent any time at school, and have only an imaginary picture of the lifestyle of the school. An actual picture is worth a thousand words!]