

Nathalia Primary School Newsletter

February 26th, 2020

Swimming Program

Thank you to the parents who were able to come along and support our swimming program. It was great to have parents helping with swimming groups and others just coming to watch what is going on.

Swimming is such an important life skill and an integral component of the curriculum. Hopefully parents are able to expose their children to water based activities during the year to enable them to continue to grow in confidence and ability when they are around water.



Thank the Fireys

School Colour Run

To recognise and thank the CFA community volunteers, the school will be hosting a Colour Run. The run will be on the school oval at 2.15pm on

Friday the 28th of February.

Children are encouraged to wear red for the fireys on Friday.

If children are participating in the Colour Run they must be wearing old clothes or bathers, preferably white.



Wanted for Science

Clean 2 litre cartons (milk or juice)

Old magazines

See Ms Inglis



Forthcoming Events:

- February 28 —Thank the Fireys Colour Run
- March 9 —Labour Day Public Holiday
- March 13 —Parents Club AGM and meeting
- March 16 —Parent Teacher Interviews
- March 17 —School Council Meeting AGM
- March 19 —Harmony Day
- March 20 —Year 6 Leadership Day (Melbourne)
- March 22 —Working Bee
- March 27 —Interschool Athletic Sports
- End of Term 2 (2.20pm dismissal)
- April 14 —First Day of term 2 (Tuesday)

PUFNC Netball

JUNIOR NETBALL TRAINING

Commences 5th March 2020 at Picola Recreation Reserve.

11 & U (Minis), 13 & U, 15 & U training at 5pm.

17 & U training at 5.30pm.



Any queries contact Kim McPherson 0488 488 544

School Council Elections

Information is attached to this newsletter regarding the forthcoming School Council elections. Nomination forms are available at the office and need to be lodged at the school within a week.

The following people are leaving School Council and are eligible for re-election: Cindy Sheahan, Alana Zammit, Courtney Brown, Lisa-Ann Moor and Kaye Bernhardt.

These people have not completed their two-year terms and will remain on Council: Philippa Schapper, Dianna Baxter, Kath Caldwell, Margot Craig, Leanne Halden, Paul Broughan and Shelley Patone.

This leaves the following number of vacancies: Parent – 4, DET – 2, Community – 1

School Council is a vital component in the structure of the school and is the school's governing body. I urge all parents to please give strong consideration to the prospect of nominating for School Council.

The Parent Nomination Form is attached to this newsletter and needs to be returned to the school by 04/03/2020.

Chris McCallum

Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of

.....

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on

...../...../..... (insert date and year).

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on

...../...../..... (insert date and year)

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

.....

Principal

School Council Elections

Schedule 5A: Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the

.....school council.

Name:

.....

Residential address:

.....

Home telephone:

Business telephone:

.....

Email:

.....

I am the parent/guardian of, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate

Date / /

.....

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

Personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable).

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on

You may choose not to give some or all of the information requested; however, your nomination may not be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

School Council Elections - Information for Parents

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category – members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. Department employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL?

Each member brings their own valuable life skills and knowledge to the role. Councilors may need to develop skills and acquire knowledge in areas that are unfamiliar to them. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term one each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term one each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

Department employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.