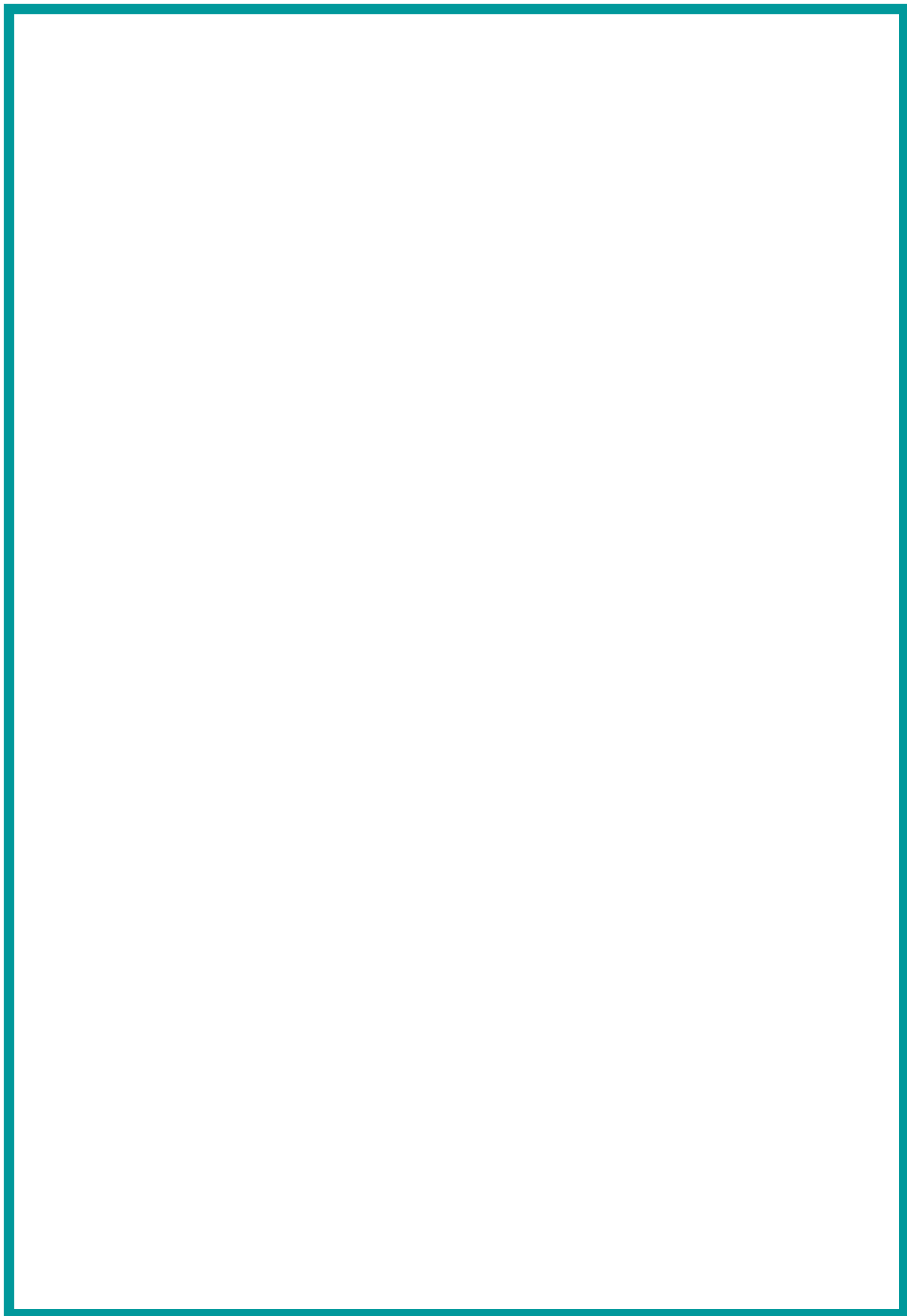


Learning-Partnerships-Success



2020 Prep Information





WELCOME TO LAURIMAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

This is an exciting time to start your child at our school. We trust that your family's association with the school will be both enjoyable and rewarding for all concerned.

As a parent, you have been your child's first teacher. You have already helped your child learn many things, such as crawling and walking and talking.

When we watch children learn to walk, it is obvious that some children learn to walk earlier and some children later, yet all reach that milestone. Similarly, at school, children progress uniquely. Some children will learn things quickly, whilst other children may need some more time. In the classroom, we foster a safe and happy environment where your child will be valued, praised and encouraged to take risks or 'have-a-go'.

Parent involvement is highly valued in all levels of school operations. You may assist in classroom programs or by being a part of a team or member of a committee. We look forward to developing a strong school community learning relationship.

This booklet explains some of the day to day working of the school, the programs that we offer your child and ways that you can help your child at home and at school.

- The Laurimar Primary School Team



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Address: 1 Armidale Road, Doreen, 3754

Telephone Number: 03 9717 7100

Fax Number: 9717 7199

Website: laurimarps.vic.edu.au

E-mail: laurimar.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

TERM DATES

Term 1: Thursday 30th January - Friday 27th March

Term 2: Tuesday 14th April - Friday 26th June

Term 3: Monday 13th July - Friday 18th September

Term 4: Monday 5th October - Friday 18th December



SCHOOL STARTS

The 2020 school year will commence on Thursday January 30th for Students. The first day can be quite an overwhelming time for Preps. As a result, staggered start times provide children an opportunity to start the day in a calm, organised manner.

SCHOOL TIMES

9am - 11:00am – 2-hour teaching block
11:00 am - 11:30am – recess
11:30 - 1:30 pm – 2-hour teaching block
1:30 - 1:40 pm – inside eating time
1:40 - 2:30 pm – lunch
2:30 - 3:30 pm – 1-hour teaching block

EARLY YEARS INTERVIEW TIMES

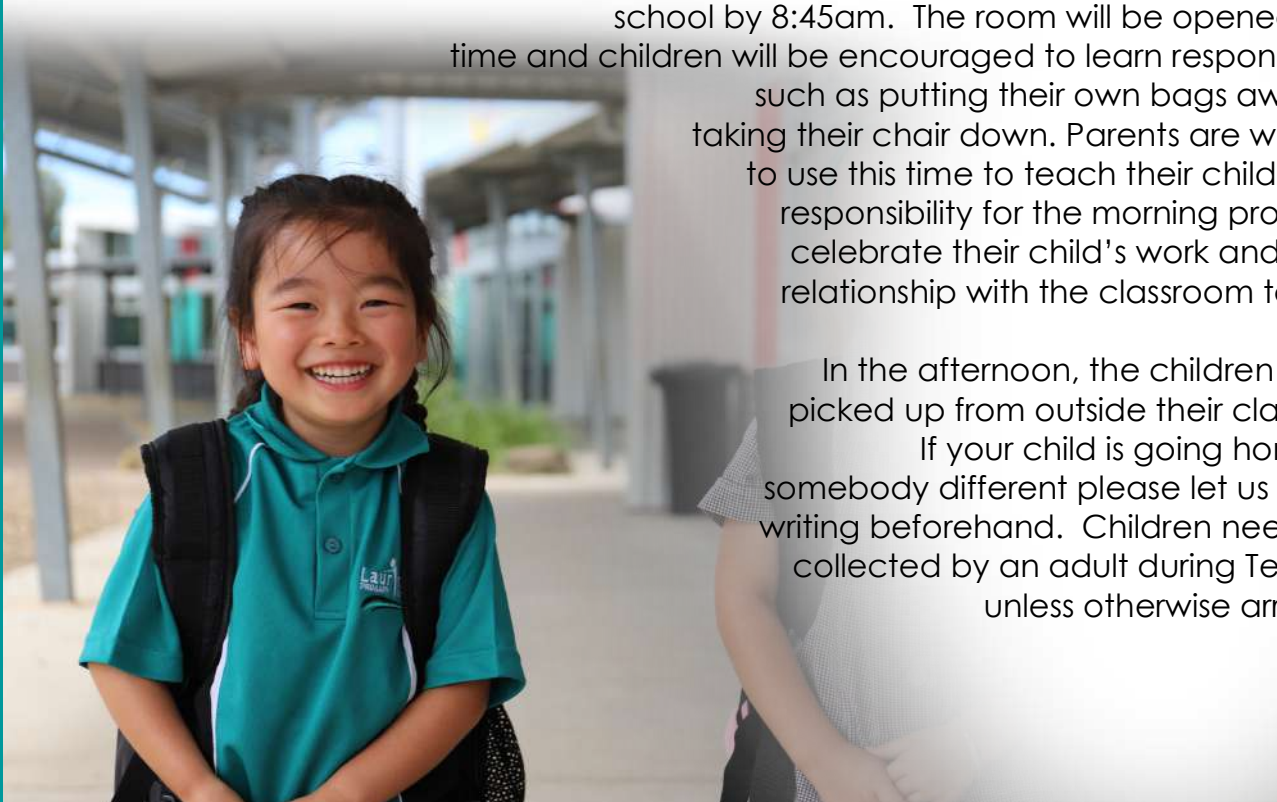
The Preps are expected to be at school all day, every day except for Wednesdays until the end of February. From the beginning of March the Preps will attend every day.

On the Wednesdays, in February the Prep team will be completing one on one interviews with all the children. An appointment slip will go home with your child at the last Step into Prep transition session informing you of your child's appointment time.

DROP OFF / PICK UP

It is strongly recommended that Preps be brought to school by 8:45am. The room will be opened at this time and children will be encouraged to learn responsibilities, such as putting their own bags away and taking their chair down. Parents are welcome to use this time to teach their child to take responsibility for the morning process, to celebrate their child's work and build a relationship with the classroom teacher.

In the afternoon, the children can be picked up from outside their classroom. If your child is going home with somebody different please let us know in writing beforehand. Children need to be collected by an adult during Term One unless otherwise arranged.



CURRICULUM

The curriculum at Laurimar Primary School is based on The Victorian Curriculum. The document sets out clear guidelines and expectations for each primary level. English and Mathematics are the building blocks of our curriculum.

ENGLISH

The Prep – 2 Junior School have a two-hour literacy block each day. In this time, children are engaged in a wide range of activities aimed at developing and extending their skills in reading, writing, spelling, speaking and listening.

During reading sessions, we use a model known as the CAFE program which is a menu of reading strategies that target Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expand Vocabulary.

The CAFE Program is a literacy structure that teaches independence and strategies that are introduced individually. When introduced to each task, the children discuss what it looks like, sounds like and feels like to engage in the task independently. Then, the children work on building stamina until they are successful at being independent while doing that task.

There are 5 tasks

- Read to Self
- Read to Someone
- Work on Writing
- Word Work
- Listen to Reading

When all five tasks have been introduced and the children are fully engaged in reading and writing, the teacher is then able to work with small groups or confer individually with children. This structure is effective, the results are amazing, and the children look forward to the Daily 5.



You may hear your child talking about 'good fit books', read to self, read to someone, building reading stamina, check for understanding, back up and re-read and the ability to cross check. These are some of the things that we will be working on next year.

An appreciation of books will be fostered through our Library program. Individual teachers will inform children and parents of their library day, so a labelled library bag can be brought to school.

MATHEMATICS

As with the English program, the aim of the Mathematics Program is to develop confidence when dealing with a numeration problem.

In line with the Early Years Numeracy Program, the school has five one-hour Numeracy sessions per week.

The 3 Numeracy areas are:

NUMBER AND ALGEBRA

Students connect number names and numerals with sets of up to 20 elements, estimate the size of these sets, and use counting strategies to solve problems that involve comparing, combining and separating these sets. They match individual objects with counting sequences up to and back from 20. Students order the first 10 elements of a set.

MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY

Students identify measurement attributes in practical situations and compare lengths, masses and capacities of familiar objects. They order events, explain their duration, and match days of the week to familiar events. Students identify simple shapes in their environment and sort shapes by their common and distinctive features. They use simple statements and gestures to describe location.

STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY

Students sort familiar categorical data into sets and use these to answer yes/no questions and make simple true/false statements about the data.

EXPRESSIVE EDUCATION

In addition to the core learning areas, students in Prep will also undertake the following classes:

THE ARTS

In the art room, the children are given the chance to plan, design and create images and objects using a variety of materials. Our music program is designed to engage students in all facets of music: singing, dancing, performing and making music.



EXPRESSIVE EDUCATION (CONT.)

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Developing a healthy mind and body is the aim of this area of the curriculum. A Perceptual Motor Program is run for the Preps and taught by our specialist PE teachers.

YCDI!

You Can Do It! Education (YCDI!) is a program that will teach your child a number of different skills he or she needs to know to be successful and happy, not only in Prep but throughout Primary and Secondary school (and life!). By "successful" we mean doing the best he/she can and by "happy" we mean liking him/herself, having friends, working hard and helping others. By "happy" we also mean not spending a lot of time feeling extremely sad, worried or angry.

There are 5 foundations that young children need to develop in order to be successful and happy. These are confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along and resilience. Although these words may seem quite grown up for a little one, the YCDI! Early Childhood Program will introduce each foundation with a puppet – Connie Confidence, Pete Persistence, Oscar Organisation, Gabby Get Along and Ricky Resilience. The 5 Foundations will also be pointed out in stories we read, in creative lessons and activities and in songs. Right across the school these foundations provide a common language for teachers, students and parents. Your child will have lots of opportunities to learn about, and practise, each foundation thoroughly.

PMP

The Perceptual Motor Program aims to develop a child's perceptions and understandings of themselves and their world through movement and motor experiences. Students complete activities to develop their motor skills of balance, locomotion and eye/hand/foot co-ordination.

CHINESE

Students in Prep - Year 2 participate in a 30-minute Chinese lesson each week. This program focuses on cultural elements, such as festivals and celebrations, basic greetings, counting and colours.



LEARNING TECHNOLOGY AND ICT:

Laurimar Primary School treats technology as an important element of the modern classroom. Children are given the opportunity to obtain information through technology and to present their work using technology. We are also a Google School utilising the collaborative online spaces to engage student learning.

The technology available includes: iPads, laptops, Apple TV, digital photography, coding and robotics toys, live broadcasting television studio, e-mail and the internet.

GETTING READY FOR THE SCHOOL DAY

Preparation for a great day at school begins at home. Try to ensure your child:

- has had a good night's sleep. This is essential.
- has a well-balanced breakfast. It sets them up for a day's learning.
 - has brain food, a snack and lunch packed.
 - is clean, tidy and wearing school uniform.
- has labelled belongings that are easily identified by the children.
 - is ready, eager and on time for school.

COMMUNICATION

Open communication between home and school is extremely important. Remember to check the communication folder each night for notices. The communication folder is a black folder / wallet in which children keep their Take Home Reader, Magic Word book and any notices that are sent home. Any documentation that you need to return to school should be placed in your child's communication folder.

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE

Your child should be encouraged to master these tasks without your assistance. It is the beginning of their independence.

- Wash themselves
- Tie own shoelaces
- Tidy up after any activity
 - Listen carefully
 - Speak politely
- Have good eating habits
- Use a handkerchief properly
 - Respect of property
- Dress and undress themselves
- Know their address and telephone number
 - Manage in the toilet
 - Follow simple directions
- Act on given instructions promptly
- Have had the experience of being away from Mum and Dad
 - Can use tools ie. pencils, crayons, scissors, glue stick etc.
- Relate to and respect other children ie. play games, take turns, sharing and cooperating
 - Recognise their name
- Pack their own school bag

HOMEWORK

The purpose of school related activities pursued at home is to complement classroom learning and allow parents to actively participate in their child's learning. Children from Prep to Grade 6 should be encouraged to read every night.

Preps should be returning their Take Home Books daily. As children begin reading more complex material, they may need to have the same book for several days.

Reading need not be confined only to Take Home Books. Children should be encouraged to read library books, home books, magazines, papers, etc. The best way for children to learn is by modelling – they should see you reading a variety of material as well.

BEHAVIOUR

As individuals we have rights. At Laurimar Primary School, students have the right to learn and grow in a safe, caring and stimulating environment. Laurimar Primary School has a Code Of Conduct, which outlines students' rights, responsibilities, rules and consequences. These are required to provide a learning environment that enables students to develop to their full academic potential as well as giving them the opportunity to grow as a caring, co-operative and responsible person. Laurimar Primary School is a Bully Free Zone. There is Zero Tolerance for bullying at our school.

UNIFORM

All students must be in full school uniform each day. On the day that your child has Physical Education or Perceptual Motor Program (PMP) classes, they are required to wear runners. Please clearly label your child's uniform with their name; particularly jackets and hats. The school uniform supplier, PSW, has a store in South Morang and can be contacted on their phone number.

PARENT HELPERS

The value of parental assistance in the classroom cannot be underestimated especially during the Literacy and Numeracy blocks. All parent helpers must obtain a 'Working with Children Check'. Application forms are available online and checks are free of charge for volunteers. There will also be a parent helper course held in Term 4 for parents who are interested in assisting in the classroom. All parents wanting to help in the classroom are encouraged to complete this course. More information will be in the Laurimar Link and on our school website.



BUDDY PROGRAM

Each Prep child has a Year 6 buddy. The buddy system is an important part of your child's first year at school. Throughout the year your child will receive many visits from their buddy, where they will work together to complete a range of learning tasks and develop their social and emotional skills.

EXCURSIONS, INCURSIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

These are organised to enhance the unit of work each term. Excursions could range from local walks or day bus trips. No child is taken on an excursion unless written parental consent has been acquired. Permission needs to be given and payment for the excursion needs to be made before your child will be allowed to participate. Children are required to wear their full school uniform on these days. This is yet another ideal way that parental assistance can be given. If at any time you have a problem paying for an excursion, please discuss this with the office and alternate arrangements can be made.

PREP TREK, YEAR ONE BBQ AND YEAR TWO SLEEPOVER

As part of the whole school camping program, the Preps have a day trek, which comprises of a long walk carrying their own backpack; a picnic lunch and exploring a community play area. The Trek is late in Term Four and parents are welcome to join us.

The Year One students have a dinner at school and Year Twos have a sleep over in Term Four. This is to help them prepare for Year Three camp. The children return to school for tea and a variety of activities and then spend the night "sleeping" in their sleeping bags at the school.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Walking to school - All children will be encouraged to walk to school – given the nature of the surrounding streets and the central location of the school this provides an ideal location to walk. Parents are requested to walk with, or organise adult supervision, during Term One as children become accustomed to the routine.



SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT TO AND FROM SCHOOL (CONT)

Riding to school – The school also strongly encourages children to ride to school. We have had a fantastic response to our bike program with many children riding to school. The school is a member of Bicycle Victoria's, 'Ride2School' initiative.

- If students are walking or riding to school, they need to know...
- The most direct route and the importance of walking/riding with others
 - How to cross the street and use the school crossing
 - To use the footpath when possible

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL HOURS CARE

This program provides high quality care for children as well as a wide range of recreational activities. Our aim is to provide safe, affordable and enjoyable care for your children out of school hours. The services are located within the school buildings and grounds, so parents can be comfortable in the knowledge that their children never leave the school when attending before or after school care.

Laurimar Primary School is the registered provider who will deliver this service. Annual registration is required. Enrolment forms will be available from the school office. Parents are required to comply with the procedures set down in the program's policy statement.

Vacation Care is operated during the school holidays; however, care is not available on public holidays.



STUDENT ABSENCE

School attendance is extremely important. At all times parents should discourage their child from staying home unless unwell. If there are concerns, please contact the school.

The Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development states that:

- Children are not permitted to be absent from school without a reasonable excuse.
- Parents are required to notify the school office if their child is absent.
- When your child is absent from school a note is required explaining the absence.
- A record of the absence and the note are required to be kept.
- Contact with home should be made if there is an absence of three days and the school has not been notified.

MONDAY ASSEMBLY

Each Monday a "Whole School" assembly will be held outside at 9.00a.m. Each assembly will commence with our National Anthem and will be followed by announcements, awards and special performances. Parents are encouraged to attend and make this a regular visit to the school. Please ensure that your child is at school by 8.45am every Monday morning so that they can be organised and settled in time for the start of assembly.

NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter, 'Laurimar Link' is published each fortnight on Thursday via the school's Compass platform. The newsletter contains general information for parents as well as sporting results, excursion reports, items for classes, events in the classroom, etc.

SCHOOL COMPASS APP

We utilise the COMPASS application which you can download for free to your phone. This will help keep you up to date with important information, allow you to make payments and view student reports each semester.

SUNSMART

September to April are our designated SunSmart months. All children are required to wear their school hat. Children not wearing an approved hat at recess or lunchtime will be directed to a designated shaded area.



WET/HOT DAYS

Where there are days of extreme weather (either wet/extreme hot weather) a special timetable will require children to remain inside during recess and lunchtime.

ILLNESS

Children will not be permitted to remain in classrooms during the recess and lunch breaks. If a child comes to school, he/she must be well enough to play outside.

Parents will be contacted if children become ill at school. Where there has been contact or injury to the head, parents will also be contacted. If contact cannot be made with the parent, the emergency contact will be phoned. If medication is to be administered to children at school, a signed note must accompany medication. The note must state: name of the child, dosage and the time the medication is to be administered.

SAFETY

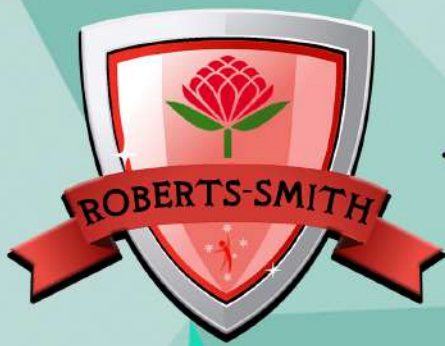
Our school program will develop safety habits; however, it is important that the following safety habits are known.

Each child should know:

- Full name and address
- How to cross a street
- How to walk on footpaths
- Never to accept rides from strangers



NOTES



RESPECT
BELONGING
CURIOSITY
INTEGRITY
EXCELLENCE

