

**IB LEARNER
PROFILE
ATTRIBUTES**

- INQUIRERS
- KNOWLEDGEABLE
- THINKERS
- COMMUNICATORS
- PRINCIPLED
- OPEN-MINDED
- CARING
- RISK-TAKERS
- BALANCED
- REFLECTIVE

Change of dismissal time for last day of term

On the last day of each school term, we have always dismissed students at 1.30pm. After recent conversations with the Melton City Council and Victoria Police, they have requested that we ensure dismissal times align with the 40km school zones. This means that at the end of this term and all future terms **students will be dismissed at 2.30pm.** Thank-you for your understanding and please remember to always drive safely around the school.

Approaching children

When outside in the yard or at drop off and pick up times, please ensure that you do not approach any child other than your own. If there have been any issues with your child and another child, please ensure that you let us know via the support email addresses or the school email so we can take the appropriate channels to manage your concerns.

Welcoming parents into the classroom



We are very excited to announce that we will be holding our first KCPS Literacy Open Morning in the coming weeks. This will be an alternative to our Term 1 Celebration of Learning. Teachers will be opening their classrooms to parents who might like to come in and see what a literacy

session looks like in the classroom, as well as engage in some reading or games with your child. To ensure we are adhering to our COVID Safe Plan, we have scheduled two separate sessions to ensure we are minimising the number of adults in the space. We also ask that no more than 2 parents attend with each child and if you are unwell in any way that you do not attend. Further information will be sent out via Compass in the coming days.

Families with last name beginning with A-L

Families with last name beginning with M-Z

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|--------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Prep | Tuesday 23 March 9:00-9:30am | Thursday 25 March 2:30-3:00pm |
| Year 1 | Monday 22 March 2:30-3:00pm | Friday 26 March 9:00-9:30am |
| Year 2 | Wednesday 24 March 2:30-3:00pm | Monday 29 March 9:00-9:30am |
| Year 3 | Friday 26 March 2:30-3:00pm | Wednesday 31 March 9:00-9:30am |
| Year 4 | Wednesday 24 March 9:00-9:30am | Wednesday 31 March 2:30-3:00pm |
| Year 5 | Thursday 25 March 9:00-9:30am | Monday 29 March 2:30-3:00pm |
| Year 6 | Tuesday 23 March 2:30-3:00pm | Tuesday 30 March 9:00-9:30am |

Netiquette

At the bottom of this newsletter, I have included an advice sheet regarding supporting you with engaging in safe online practices at home with your child. In recent weeks there have been several instances of students communicating with each other inappropriately over social media at home. Whilst it is important that we as a school are aware of this, it is very difficult for us to manage and regulate what happens when students are at home on their own devices. It is extremely important that we work together to ensure we are doing the best thing to protect our children online.

Some important safety tips:

- Most social media platforms including Snapchat, Facebook and Instagram have a minimum registration age of 13 years old. This is partly because of their privacy policies and also due to the fact that children younger than 13 years of age may not be developmentally ready to make appropriate choices online and understand the potential consequences of their actions.
- It is important that students understand that every move they make, every direct message or photo they send leaves a digital footprint- if screen shots are taken, this can last on the internet forever!
- All devices should be used in a common area of the house- not in the bedroom.
- Talk to your child/ren about what they would do if someone sent them an inappropriate message- tell them that it is important that they **do not respond**, simply screen shot (if necessary) and leave the chat or block that person.
- Don't threaten to take devices away- make sure your children understand that they will not get in trouble if they tell you a problem. If students think they will lose their device, they might not tell you if something is wrong.
- Have a family contract or agreement around internet use so that your expectations are clear.
- Most importantly, parental monitoring is vital- walk past and check out what they are doing, who they are talking to and what sites they are on. This is not a breach of their privacy...it is parenting in the digital world!

I am currently investigating some different companies that will be able to come out and run some workshops targeted to a primary aged audience. These workshops will focus on staying safe online so stay tuned for further details. It is important that we continue to work together to ensure the safety of all of our students.

DATES TO REMEMBER

16-17 March – School Photos

24 March – Family Photos

1 April – Last Day of Term 1. Students finish at 2:30pm

19 April – First Day of Term 2



Please check our website for camp dates, current specialist/swimming timetables and community notices <https://kororoitcreekps.vic.edu.au/parents/>

SCHOOL PHOTOS NEXT WEEK!



Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th March
(All family photos will be taken on Wednesday 24th March)

Yesterday, children were sent home with their personalised flyer containing their unique image code for online registration to the photo webshop.

There is no need to return any forms or money to school.

Follow these 3 easy steps to register-

1. Go to <https://order.arphotos.com.au>
2. Enter the image code from your child's individual flyer that was sent home
3. Fill in your mobile number and email address

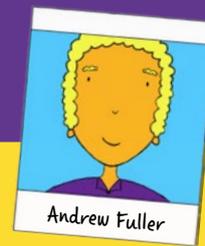
That's it! You'll be notified by email/SMS when images are ready to view and purchase!

Remember to add the codes for each of your children.

To access family photos, use the same image code of any one of your children.

Even if you registered last year, it's important that you do so again this year using your child's 2021 image code to link their images for the current year with your contact details.

Once registered, please wait for notification that 2021 images are online to view before making your purchase.



Netiquette

Online interactions are becoming as important as face-to-face ones. Learn how to manage your online relationships and develop good ‘netiquette’.

Why do we need ‘netiquette’?

Online friendships are so important to young people that many of them would endure pain rather than lose access to them. On average, young people have 56 online friends. As one young man commented:

“I’d rather lose a leg than access to Facebook.”

The strength of online relationships mirrors the best and at times, the worst, of face-to-face relationships. The only problem is that when things go badly online, they go really badly. And unlike the real world, there is no forgetting about it. As we know, things published online are difficult, if not impossible, to remove.

Almost two thirds of children have had a negative experience online and 20 percent feel badly about something they have done online. In fast-paced heated interactions in chat rooms, people who are usually friendly and positive can post nasty and hurtful comments with devastating consequences.

We need to develop ‘netiquette’—standards of behaviour for people online. Netiquette is about relationships and how people behave, rather than about particular websites or pieces of technology.

The following guidelines have been compiled from suggestions made by thousands of young people and may be useful to consider or use as a discussion point.

The ‘nana rule’

Online actions have real life consequences. If you wouldn’t do it in real life, don’t do it online. Use the ‘nana rule’—if you wouldn’t want your nana to know about it, don’t put it on the web!

Your future employers, friends and partners can and probably will, trace your cyber-trail.

Be a responsible user of technology

Be honest with yourself. Computer games and fast-paced online interactions reduce dopamine. This means it is hard to get motivated to do anything else once you have been online for a while.

Do your study before you go online.



Netiquette

Take a STAND against cyberbullying

Silence

Do not respond to abusive messages. The number one rule for dealing with cyberbullying is: **don't respond, don't interact and don't engage.**

Take a copy of all abusive messages

These may be useful legally later on. Create a new folder, called 'Abuse', and move hate mail and messages into this folder.

Accept that bullies don't think like you do

Trying to sort it out with them or asking them to stop won't work. Recognise that you are not dealing with a person who has the same mindset as yourself. Cyberbullies are cowards who often try to hide their identity and behave in nasty ways to build themselves up and to put other people down. Cyberbullying is a pathetic act.

Never deal with this problem alone

Get help! No one can cope with this alone.

Don't be provoked

Some cyberbullies 'troll' or play 'the baiting game'. A provocative comment is made and those who respond in irritation are encouraged to engage in conflict with those who respond assertively. The provoker watches, waits and stirs the pot.

Become an observer. Although you may be the target of the bully's anger, you can train yourself to act as an observer. This takes you out of the firing line and enables you to study the bully and collect evidence.

For parents: don't ban—plan

Parents should not threaten to ban access to the Internet if bullying occurs.

The main reason young people do not tell their parents when they are cyberbullied is because they fear they will lose access to the computer.

Parents should let their children know that they will help them to cope with upsetting events online but won't insist they stop using the computer.

Behavioural change is important to pay attention to. While it is tempting to take away the screens, this is not always such a great idea. It is better to ensure computers are in a shared space, and impose some limits, such as a turn off time. If parents are able to get interested in the games and use these in conversations you will be able to more clearly understand the appeal gaming has for their child. It is also good to help children maintain off screen interests and activities.

Some children retreat into an online world to deal with loneliness, distress and depression. Often these kids are very private and difficult to engage in conversations making it hard for parents to gauge how much to worry. It is important for parents to pay attention to other behavioural changes such as poor sleep, low energy, irritability beyond usual levels, and changes in appetite. Get help if needed.



Netiquette

Know that people take cyberbullying seriously and that you will be taken seriously

The Australian Government has committed \$125 million to improving online relationships. If you are bullied online, let your school know and let the police know. There are legal avenues that can be taken to stop cyberbullying.

Develop a code of netiquette

Some ideas include:

- Don't bully or be mean to others on-line.
- Let people know that cyberbullying is a weak and cowardly act of hatred online.
- Don't harass or stalk people online.
- Don't pass on embarrassing photos or posts about others.
- Parents should not allow kids to have webcams in bedrooms. Skype should only be allowed if the computer is in a shared family room. Chat roulette should be discouraged.
- Know that circulating some photos means that you risk being charged with child pornography.
- Only add friends that you know and do not add 'friends of friends'.
- If someone online wants to meet you in person, ask an adult to accompany you.

