

From the Principal



Welcome to Churchill Primary School. It is crucial that the students at Churchill Primary School learn to the best of their ability in a caring and supportive environment.

Churchill Primary School is situated in the heart of Latrobe Valley and is located 160kms east of Melbourne. It was established in 1967 to accommodate the large number of families coming to and working in the local power stations. Our SFO is 0.75 with a current enrolment of 160 students who occupy 7 classrooms and 3 specialist areas. Our school has equivalent full time staff: 1 Principal class, 15 teachers, and 6 Education Support staff. ICT is a well-developed area with Interactive Smart boards and computers in every classroom. We have a well-resourced provision for netbooks with two full class sets in the 3-6 area and 40 iPads in the P-2 area, including an iPad for every classroom teacher. We operate as a Professional Learning Community and teachers are expected to work, plan and assess together in teams. We embrace the Challenging Learning theory across the school, which means we see successful students as the ones who are resilient and have a growth mindset. We are developing a strong garden and sustainability focus through community partnerships and with the introduction last year of a Chinese language program for the junior grades, we have been able to add some powerful learning opportunities for our students.

Our vision is *Respectful Positive Learners*

Churchill Primary promotes a continuous focus on the codes of behavior with a strategy supporting respect for others and learning in our classrooms. All students are taught that bullying and disrespectful attitudes and behaviours are not accepted at school. Instead we encourage a positive attitude where we look out for one another in a supportive way that is explicitly taught to all.

Our core value statement: Respectful Positive Learners underpin all that we do. We celebrate the efforts of our students, their passions and their achievements. We recognize that students bring different knowledge and life experiences to new learning. We strive to develop socially responsible individuals and foster a community of life-learners.

The framework of School Wide Positive Behaviour Support with the purpose of establishing a safe, supportive and positive learning environment, using evidence based approaches for students and teachers to establish a positive school culture, supports this. Our student attendance is above the median for government schools and in the top 40% of all schools. We attribute this to greater accountability that has encouraged responsible and positive student behavior and increased attendance rates in the past four years. We continue to maintain and strengthen the focus on engagement for student learning to create an environment that students feel connected to and have a sense of belonging.

We look forward to seeing you here and learning together.

Susan Gilmore