



Drysedale Primary School

52-66 Clifton Springs Rd, (P O Box 122)
DRYSDALE VIC 3222
Telephone: (03) 5251 2272
Facsimile: (03) 5253 2447
Email: drysedale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Web: www.drysedaleps.vic.edu.au

25th February, 2021

Dear Parents,

Uniform Update

I am writing to give you an update on the renewal of our uniform contract and specifically in this message details about uniform colours.

Our School Council met on Tuesday to consider the information gained from our recent consultation. The School Council decision is to continue the school's uniform colours as brown and gold subject to receipt of a suitable tender submission.

A lot of information has been considered in reaching this decision. Thank you to everyone who responded to the consultation. There were 77 responses to the uniform consultation. Of these 32 were in favour of retaining our brown and gold colours, 43 were in favour of changing and 2 did not express an opinion but replied with general observations. The most common comments submitted were:

- that the school's colours and the Drysdale town colours are traditionally brown and gold;
- that a change to blue and gold would make the uniform for both government primary schools in the area similar;
- that there are difficulties sourcing brown uniform;
- that there are additional costs in buying brown uniform.

We also spoke to other schools in Victoria that have a brown uniform about how they have solved some of the sourcing issues we have experienced.

The motivation to change colour should be practical not emotional i.e. we are unable to give sufficient access to a brown and gold uniform rather than we like / do not like brown and gold. Taking the consultation feedback into account, School Council determined that it would be reasonable to test our ability to overcome difficulties with sourcing and cost through a robust tendering process and through some changes to arrangements.

The tender will be sent out to uniform suppliers in early April. We have had discussions with a number of potential suppliers and are confident that we can source brown uniform. We are also aware of the need to offer polo shirts without logos and plain pants and shorts at lower prices. Prior to the tender being sent out, we will be consulting with junior school council about the specific range of uniform items we wish to include e.g. plain brown skorts, brown tights, summer dresses as well as the range of sizes we need.

School Council has agreed to make our uniform more accessible by providing:

- Access to online ordering through school so that delivery costs are minimised
- Access to more local shops that stock Drysdale Primary School uniform, e.g. Drysdale, Leopold or Ocean Grove
- Access to uniform purchasing out of normal school hours e.g. during student led conference evenings
- Access to second hand uniform (see below).

Our Junior School Council supported by Shane Kennedy, Alycia Dimitrijevski and Hilary Sharples will run a second hand uniform shop with set opening hours each week and at some evening school events. The first of these events will be next week's Family Dance Night. The left-hand side of the portable classrooms closest to the back of the hall have become our new second hand uniform shop. Any item can be purchased for a gold coin donation per item.

I have received an up to date stock list from our current supplier, PSW based in Geelong. They are able to offer a 30% discount on any of these items while stocks last.

We are proud of our uniform and recognise its connection to the town of Drysdale. It is practical to continue with these colours as our uniform while we are able to find enough suitable suppliers for all our students to be able to attend school in our uniform. If we are not able to secure an accessible supply of uniform in these colours, school council will need to revisit this choice for practical reasons.

Yours sincerely,



Philip Dunlop-Moore
Principal