HOT WEATHER POLICY

DEFINITION
The following procedures occur on days of extreme heat, ie 37°C or greater forecast at 8am on FM102.3 as the benchmark.

RECESS AND LUNCH BREAKS
Children go out for recess and lunch, but are encouraged to remain under shaded areas. Only low-key activities are permitted, ie no chasey, soccer etc.
Staff are on duty as per usual. However, OVAL duty is CANCELLED.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION LESSONS
In line with our Sunsafe Policy, PE lessons will be modified to accommodate the heat. The Phys Ed teacher will have priority for using the school gym on ‘hot weather days’ to enable the program to continue.

LUNCHES
All students should store their recess or lunch inside the classroom. It is medically unsafe to store lunches in bags outside the classroom when the weather is about 30°C.

WRAPPERS ETC
OHSW ‘Wasp Policy’ requires classroom refuse to be placed in the bins. Frozen iceblocks and the like must not gather near classrooms as they attract wasps and ants.
A monitor should be chosen to clear refuse from around the outside of the doorway after recess and lunch breaks. Tongs and gloves are provided.

AFTERNOON RECESS
Teachers can organise an afternoon recess break of 10 minutes for their class at a time that suits them. Above procedures still apply. Buddy classes are suggested.

HOMEWORK
Students will not be set any written homework on these nights.

SCHOOL SPORTS AND PRACTICES
On ‘Hot Weather Policy’ days sporting matches and practices are cancelled when the temperature is forecast for 37°C or above.
Most school teams practice late afternoon and play after school. This usually means the sport is played at the hottest time of the day.
Exceptions to this rule are possible, eg an air-conditioned stadium or for sports that start and finish early in the day. Exemption to this policy may be approved by the Principal, but it is the coach’s responsibility to communicate this to players and parents.

SUN-SMART PRACTICES
Staff will promote the following sun-smart practices:
1. The school’s uniform broad brimmed hats or legionnaires caps will be worn by all students during recess, lunch and physical education lessons fro September 1 until May 31.
2. Staff will provide for frequent drink breaks and access to water bottles. Please note this only applies to water, not other drinks.
3. Students are encouraged to use shaded areas and modify play activities.
4. Students are asked to have their own sunscreen and apply well beforehand, eg before school. Each classroom will have a supply of sunscreen for emergency use.

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