



Newsletter

2nd February, 2023

Newport Lakes
Primary School

Principal: David Moss

Assistant Principal: Carly Bannon

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Acknowledgement of Country

Newport Lakes Primary School acknowledges the Yalukit-Willam people of the Bunurong in the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the lands of the school. We pay our respect to the Elders past, present and emerging. As we share our knowledge, teaching and practices, may we also pay respect to the knowledge embedded forever within the Aboriginal custodianship of the country.

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all Newport Lakes students and families. We are very pleased to have you back again and so eager to get to work! A special welcome to all our new students beginning at NLPS this year and to the 5 classes of Prep children that will begin their first day of school next Tuesday.

We are confident you are going to enjoy your time at NLPS. Please remember that we are here to support you on your new educational journey and don't hesitate to ask any of us if there is something troubling or puzzling you.

A big greeting to our new members of teaching staff this year. These new staff members include:

Teachers Emma Barger (Yr. 1), Shayne Robson (Yr.1), Isabelle (Issy) Jack (Yr. 1), Olivia Flanagan (Yr.3), Eliza Warne (Yr.5/6), Lucinda Porter (Yr. 5/6), Priscilla Patterson (LOTE Auslan) and Samantha Meddis (Student Wellbeing Teacher).

Education Support Daniel Pantalleresco

In a time when there is a shortage of teachers in our education system, we are extremely pleased and proud to welcome a significant number of professional and quality new teachers and education support staff to our school in 2023. It is an exciting and revitalising time for our school and staff to include these new staff members into our excellent teaching team at Newport Lakes Primary School.

Smooth Start

All grades had a smooth start to the school year and the students have quickly been acquainted with their new teacher and class friends. The specialist programs of Physical Education, Art, LOTE Auslan, Library and Performing Arts (Music/ Drama) have all begun their weekly timetabled lessons.

For these sessions parents are reminded that children will require; Physical Education - runners (school shoes are not suitable for running and when participating in active programs), a water bottle and if possible, shorts /or tracksuit, and, in Library a library bag to protect borrowed books (a green/blue recycle bag from the supermarket is great for this task). The school has purchased a number of class sets of water proof art smocks to protect children's clothes during Art lessons.

Sunsmart – Term 1

Newport Lakes Primary School is a 'Sunsmart School' and has a policy that all students are to wear an approved sunhat (bucket or legionnaire style) during terms 1 & 4. Students are to bring along their hats to school every day during term 1 and a 'no hat ~ no play' rule will apply. Parents are reminded to clearly label their child's hat and to continuously check that the label remains legible. It is also recommended that all students have their own water bottle with them every day at school. This bottle will be accessible to the children during class and must only contain water. Please **do not** fill with juice, cordial, etc. Parents are requested to apply sunscreen before school and sunscreen will also be available in each classroom for children to apply if required throughout the day.

We have already experienced some very hot weather and we should expect there will be more of these extreme days as we proceed into the months of February and March.

If the hot weather becomes extreme (eg. above 34°C and a strong northerly wind) there may be the need to restrict or reduce the outside play times during recess or lunch. Although many of the children are very disappointed about missing their outdoor play periods, it is necessary that we restrict the amount of exercise and exposure to the heat on these days. In these situations, students will be supervised indoors where they participate in passive play such as board games and craft activities.

COVID Update

At this stage we have no recorded cases of Covid at the school nor do we have any restrictions. Hopefully the impact of Covid on our school will be minimal in 2023 but from past experience we know circumstances can change very quickly.

It is important that we remain vigilant in regard to this virus and we will continue to implement strategies such as well ventilated rooms, activities outdoors when possible (eg. assemblies) and encourage robust hygiene practices with all children.

Air purifiers are available and in use in all classrooms and teaching spaces and staff and students are welcome to wear masks whilst at school.

Parents are also reminded that RATs (Rapid Antigen Tests) are available at no cost for parents and families from the school. Please call in or contact the school office and either pick them up or we can send them home with your child.

Communication at School

Communication between school and home is very important in every child's education. There are multiple means of staying in touch with your child's teacher and being informed of what is happening at school. Some of these include:

Newsletter – Every second Thursday the school newsletter is distributed to parents by email. The newsletter will contain information about activities and that have been happening and are being planned for the future. At the conclusion of each newsletter there is a school calendar that contains dates of all events and activities throughout the year including holidays and pupil free days.

Please ensure that you register your email details by subscribing on the school website, or keep your compass details up to date.

Reminders Notice – Every Monday or Tuesday a ‘Reminders’ notice will be sent out via the Compass Portal to all families on the newsletter distribution list giving details of the upcoming events for the following 2 weeks.

School Website – The school website (www.newportlakesps.vic.edu.au) has a wealth of information about the school and what’s happening. There is a school calendar that contains dates of all events and activities throughout the year including holidays and pupil free days.

Twitter – The school has its own Twitter account and will often send out special notices and updates on what’s happening in your school.

Contacting Your Child’s Teacher – If you have any concerns or would like to discuss a matter in regard to your child it is very important that you arrange to meet with your child’s teacher. This can be done in a number of ways including;

- ⇒ dropping into the classroom before school (8.50-9.00am) (Only suitable for brief messages)
- ⇒ arranging a meeting at a time suitable for both parties. This can be done by sending a note to the teacher, emailing the school (place teachers name in subject box) or leaving a message and contact details at the school office for the class teacher to contact you.
- ⇒ emailing the teacher directly via Compass

Meet the Teacher Interviews. Meet the Teacher Interviews will be conducted for all year levels on Thursday 9th March between 2-7pm. Interviews will be available as a face to face meeting or online.

Bookings for all classroom and specialist teachers will be conducted online via the Compass Parent Portal. Further information on the upcoming Parent teacher meetings will be sent out via Compass

Student Reports – All children will be assessed on the New Victorian curriculum. This incorporates English, Mathematics, History and Science. Student reports will be available on Compass prior to the mid-year parent interviews and at the end of the year.

Assisting in the Classrooms – There are many different ways you can assist in school and your child’s classroom. A parent helpers’ program will be operating for junior school classes where parents are rostered on to assist with the daily reading program. An induction program will be held later in term 1 for new Parents to assist in the Parents Helpers Program. Further information on these sessions will be placed in upcoming Newsletters.

Parents are also often required to assist on excursions and classroom activities where an extra set of hands and eyes is of invaluable assistance. Please discuss with your child’s teacher if there are ways you can assist in the classroom.

All parents / carers etc. will require a current Working With Children Card to assist in any activity at the school. We advise parents to apply for a WWC to avoid the disappointment of missing out on being able to attend or assist with your child’s learning at school.

Information Sessions – In week 4 of this term we will be conducting information sessions in the evenings for all year levels. These sessions will give an overview of the curriculum, special events and activities, homework etc. All teachers in the grade level will be in attendance.

The dates for each of the Information session are;

Monday 20th February - Prep

Tuesday 21st February - Yr. 3/4

Wednesday 22nd February - Yr. 1/2

Thursday 23rd February - Yr. 5/6

Although still to be finalised, we are considering conducting the information sessions online with a follow up school 'open afternoon' later in term 1 where parents can visit the classrooms with their child to view and discuss the wonderful and engaging learning that is occurring in the classrooms.

Further details on the 2023 Information sessions will be sent home via Compass and in the next newsletter.

Anaphylaxis

I would also like to remind our school community that we have a number of children at Newport Lakes that suffer from the life-threatening condition anaphylaxis. These children suffer from severe allergies to things such as nuts and nut products (especially peanuts and peanut butter), eggs, fish and shellfish. We ask all our parents to assist in making our school a safe environment for these children by not including any of these products in your children's snacks or lunches.

If there is a child suffering from Anaphylaxis in your child's class a Compass note has been sent out notifying you of this and how you can assist in making the classroom a safe environment for all children.

School Ground Supervision Parents are reminded that playground supervision (teacher on duty) is provided before school at 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm.

Students should not be in the school grounds before or after these times unless supervised by their parents or an adult. Students should aim to be at school between 8.45 and 8.55am. This allows them to see their friends, chat or play a short game before school begins at 9.00am. Students playing in the school ground or on playground equipment after school **MUST** be supervised by their parents or guardians.

The school gate on the Basketball Court will be locked at 3.45pm when the teacher on duty has completed their yard supervision. Any children and parents remaining in the yard after this time will need to exit via the school gate near the office.

School Council - Interested?

School councils are made up of parents, staff, community members and the principal. To be a school councillor, you must have an interest in the school and be able to work cooperatively with others to shape the school's future. If you're a parent, guardian or staff member, you must nominate yourself to be a school councillor and then be elected through a vote (if required). A term on School Council is for 2 years.

Newport Lakes Primary School Council has 8 parent representatives, with 4 placements becoming available every 2 years. There are 4 sub-committees within the School Council including Finance, Education, Facilities & Management and Community and Fundraising.

You may wish to be on the School Council or possibly be a co-opted member on a sub-committee.

Further information on School Council and how to nominate is available later in this newsletter. Nominations (and if required) elections will be held later in February.

Student Leadership Congratulations to our four new School Captains for 2023. Dan, Amelia, Emily and Finn will be excellent student leaders and ambassadors for the school. I am sure they will also be wonderful role models for our younger children who will see them take the school assembly each week and perform other leadership duties throughout the school.

<p>Dan Le Tran</p> 	<p>Hi everyone, my name is Dan. I am grateful for being a school captain of 2023 alongside Finn, Emily and Amelia. I would like to thank David, Carly and past and present teachers. They helped me to get where I am today. I help others and will try to show the five school values so everyone at our school can see what things they can do to make NLPS a better place.</p>
<p>Finn Greaney</p> 	<p>Hello parents and students, my name is Finn and I will be one of your school captains this year. I am very honoured and proud to represent NLPS for 2023. I would like to thank all of my teachers and especially David and Carly for giving me this amazing opportunity. I will demonstrate all the school values to the best of my ability. If you have any questions or need any help you can come and find me and I'll do my best to help you. Congratulations to Dan, Amelia and Emily on getting the role of school captain. I wish the whole school community every success in 2023.</p>
<p>Amelia Durham</p> 	<p>Hi, my name is Amelia and I will be one of your school captains for 2023. I would like to thank all of my teachers for helping me get to where I am today and for their support over the past 6 years. I would also like to thank David and Carly for selecting me for this position and trusting me to be a good school captain. Congratulations to my fellow captains: Emily, Finn and Dan, for all their hard work to get this role. You can look out for me in the yard and I will always be happy to lend a helping hand. Thank you for listening.</p>
<p>Emily Nicholson</p> 	<p>Hey everyone I'm Emily. I feel very grateful to be chosen by David and Carly as your school captain. I am really excited to work alongside Amelia Finn and Dan as your 2023 school captains. I would like to thank anyone in my life who has helped me become who I am today. I would love to help and bring a positive effect into all the lives around me like others have for me many times. I look forward to representing our school values as one of your new school captains.</p>

We are currently in the process of selecting the school's House Captains and many of the Yr. 6 children are preparing their campaign videos to present to all the Yr.3-6 students before they have their opportunity to vote for their House Captains for 2023.

Nominations are also currently being accepted for the school's Arts Captains. The role of the Arts Captains is to give assistance to the Arts Teachers (Visual, Instrumental and Performing Arts) and students when required and promote the school's excellent program at a student level.

Later this month each class (Yr. 1-6) will also choose their representative for the Junior School Council (JSC). At Newport Lakes we strongly believe in giving students a voice in many aspects of the school and classrooms. We have a very active JSC that meet regularly and give their opinions and direction on how we can have a better school.

I hope you have a good week.

Regards,

David Moss

Principal



The staff and school community would like to send our sincere condolences to the Idris family, (Jomana, Weam & Moath) on the recent passing of their father. Our thoughts are with the family at this very difficult time.



Hi, my name is Samantha Meddis and I am the new Student Wellbeing Teacher at Newport Lakes PS. I will be working at the school three days a week (Monday-Wednesday), with my office located in the multi-purpose room (MPR).

Throughout my nineteen years of teaching, one aspect that has remained constant across my various roles is my firm belief that wellbeing is paramount in education. Most of my career has been spent at Kingsville Primary School, because of the wonderful community culture. Throughout my time at Kingsville, I played a significant role in the wellbeing of students by leading many areas such as Wellbeing Teams, Student Voice and the school-wide implementation of the Respectful Relationships Program.

The responsibility to promote the importance of mental health and wellbeing is an area I feel very passionate about and as such, I am currently undertaking a Graduate Diploma of Counselling through Deakin University.

On a personal note, my husband and I have been married for fourteen years with an eleven year old daughter. We also have a cat who we love dearly.

I look forward to getting to know you all and working together to support the wellbeing and social and emotional needs of all students at NLPS, so they can find success and be their 'best'.

School Lunch Updates

Lunch orders will commence next Thursday. All orders must be placed prior to 8am on Thursday. To avoid missing out on their lunch and also lessen the morning rush it is recommended you place your order the night before.

Price increases Due to ongoing price increases of food, packaging, utilities and freight unfortunately our lunch order providers King Will Catering, can no longer put off passing on price increases and continue to operate viably. A price rise in most items has occurred this year.

King Will catering pride themselves on supplying our families value for money and will continue to stay that way. We hope that NLPS parents will continue to support our caterers as they love feeding your children healthy meals at school.

Sustainable Lunches Due to government regulations we can no longer supply plastic cutlery. Families will have the option of either their children bringing their cutlery from home or purchasing bamboo cutlery with their lunch at an additional cost. The teachers won't be offering children cutlery so it is important that parents choose to purchase sustainable bamboo cutlery or place a spoon / fork in their child's bag on lunch days.



MATHS EVENING FOR PARENTS

**WEDNESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY
6:00 - 7:00PM**

We urge all parents/carers to come along and attend a fun and informative evening with mathematics expert Michael Minas.

Michael will highlight what you can be doing to help your child thrive as a young mathematician.



MATHS AT HOME

TOP 5 TIPS FOR PARENTS

Helping your kids to do maths at home can be a positive experience.

Here are our top five tips to help you stay calm and carry on!

1. LEARNING MATHS IS ABOUT STRATEGIES

Much of the actual maths is the same as what you may have learnt. Although learning maths is becoming more about understanding the reasoning and using a variety of different



strategies to do maths. The strategies you learnt at school are still valid too!

Teachers value students using many strategies to solve problems and develop thinking.

2. ASK QUESTIONS



You don't have to know the answers! Nor do you have to know how to get there. Just ask questions and let your child think it through. Here are some of our favourites:

- What thinking did you use to get this far?
- What else could you try, is there another way?
- What could a next step be?
- How could you find out more about what to do?
- Do you think others may do something different?

3. BE PERSISTENT, LEARN TOGETHER



Maths can be challenging. Rather than saying 'I can't do that', or 'It's too hard', say 'I can't do that yet', or 'We will work it out together'. Research shows parental support is a major factor

for student success at school. Celebrate achieving small steps in solving a problem.

Persist, be supportive and remember to focus on the thinking, not getting answers.

4. SEE MATHS EVERYDAY

There is plenty of maths around you to develop numeracy skills, such as calculating, measuring, using numbers, interpreting data and graphs, recognising patterns, and using language to develop mathematical understanding. Ask questions about the maths in activities like cooking, exercise, sport, budgeting and shopping. Playing games is also a fun way to practice and experience maths.



5. STAY POSITIVE, KEEP CALM

Don't pass on your baggage, this is not about you! Let your children experience maths positively, we need maths for everyday life, and maths graduates have excellent career opportunities.

Don't say 'I was never good at maths' or 'I never liked maths'.

Maths can, and should be, really fun!



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SCHOOL COUNCIL

[If any parent is interested in nominating for school council, please contact or collect a nomination form from the school office.](#)

Nominations can be made by another parent or self -nomination.

Notice of election and call for nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of
Newport Lakes Primary School

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00pm on
Monday 13 February 2023

The ballot (if required) will close at 4.00pm on
Monday 27 February

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Membership category
Parent member

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	23
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	25

Number of positions:	4
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Membership category
School employee member

Term of office	Year
From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	23
to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 20	25

Number of positions:	1
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Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Principal signature
<i>David Moss</i>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month	Date/s	Time	Event
FEBRUARY			
	Mon 6th		Yr 4 Incurion—Climate Change & Victoria's Future
	Tue 7th	9am—1.30pm	Prep Commence
	Wed 8th	9am—1.30pm 6.00pm—7.00pm	Preps attend Parent Maths Information Evening In MPR
	Thur 9th		Preps attend full days Yr 4 Excursion to Melbourne Museum IMAX
	Fri 10th	9am—11am	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sport @ Seaholme PS
	Thur 16th		Yr 5/6 Excursion to Sovereign Hill
	Fri 17th	9am—11am	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sport—Home
	Mon 20th		Yr 5/6 Excursion to Immigration Museum
	Fri 24th	9am—11am	Yr 5/6 Interschool Sport—Home
MARCH			
	Wed 1st		District Swimming Carnival
	Tue 7th		School Photos
	Thur 2nd	5.30pm –7.00pm	Prep Picnic
	Thur 9th	2.00pm—7.00pm	Meet the Teacher Interviews
	Fri 10th		Pupil Free Day—no students at school
	Mon 20th—Wed 22nd		Yr 6 Camp- Billabong Ranch
	Mon 27th—Wed 29th		Yr 5 Camp—Billabong Ranch
APRIL			
	Thur 6th	2.30pm dismissal	Last day of Term 1
	Fri 7th –Fri 21st		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
	Mon 24th		First day of Term 2
	Tue 25th		Anzac Day—No School
MAY			
	Mon 1st—Wed 3rd		Yr 3/4 Camp—Lake Dewar
	Mon 22nd		Athletics Carnival
JUNE			
	Mon 12th		Public Holiday—No School
	Fri 23rd		Last day of term 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month	Date/s	Time	Event
JUNE			
	Mon 26th - Fri 27th July		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
AUGUST			
	Mon 21st		Book Week
SEPTEMBER			
	Fri 15th	2.30pm dismissal	Last day of term 3
	Mon 18th—Fri 29th		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
NOVEMBER			
	Mon 6th		Pupil Free Day –no students at school
	Tue 7th		Public Holiday— No School
	Wed 8th—Fri 10th		Art Show
DECEMBER			
	Tue 20th	1.30pm dismissal	Last day of term 4



Open Day

Thursday 9th March 2023



Tours at
9.30am | 11.30am | 2.00pm | 5.30pm

Principal's address at 6.00pm
Call to book a tour

Altona North Campus Prep - Year 9

1 McArthurs Road, 9392 8600

Williamstown Campus Year 7 - Year 9

29-69 Kororoit Creek Rd, 9393 5800

www.bayside.vic.edu.au



JOIN THE FUN!

**Hobson's Bay and Surround
All Girls**

Ford Reserve - Altona

Monday 20th February - 20th March

5pm-6pm

5 Week Program
Register below

play.afl/auskick



ALTONA EAST S.C.
SEASON 2023 BEGINS!

ON THE 31ST JANUARY
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
SEE DETAILS BELOW

WWW.ALTONAEASTSC.COM.AU

CrossFit

YOUTH PROGRAM 3018

**OPEN DAY
SUNDAY
12 FEB, 10AM
- MIDDAY**

- Classes for 5-7 year olds, 8-12 years and 13+
- 45 minute classes including age appropriate training
- Promotes health, teamwork and confidence
- \$18.50 per class with term and multi-child discounts available



Factory 18,
34-42 Aberdeen Rd,
Altona VIC 3018

www.crossfit3018.com.au
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