

Newsletter

25th May 2023

Newport Lakes
Primary School

Principal: David Moss

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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 and present. 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.

Always was, always will be Aboriginal land.

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week, we learned of a serious collision involving a bus carrying 45 Exford Primary School students' home from school, which resulted in a few children being injured, some seriously. Our thoughts are with the students, families and staff who have been affected by this distressing event, and with their wider school community.

As a principal, I am always concerned for the safety of our children when they travel away on an excursion or camp. Risks are always greater when our students are attending an off-site event due to the number of factors that are out of the control of the teachers and school. Several years ago, well before it was the normal practice, our school introduced a 'seat belt only' policy for all bus trips at Newport Lakes Primary School. At the time, this was a difficult and much discussed decision to make, as very few bus companies could supply fully seat belted buses for local travel and the cost of the bus and the excursion would increase significantly. At this time, primary school children were permitted to sit 3 to a (double) seat which allowed for almost a third more children to travel on the bus. This reduced the cost per child for the bus travel but also increased the risk of serious injury if an accident was to occur. However, as the outcome of only having seat belted buses would be improved safety for our students, the decision was supported by school council and the community and introduced at our school.

Since the time we introduced the *seat belt only* policy, almost 7 years ago, all bus travel to school excursions, swim programs, interschool sport and camps has been on seat belted buses. There have been occasions where a non-seat belt bus has arrived at school for an excursion, and once for a return journey on a camp, and the staff refused to hop on until a seat belted bus was attained.

At NLPS there are also a set of safety procedures staff follow prior to entry, whilst on the bus and when the students are departing a vehicle to reduce the risk when our children travel via bus.

There will always be an element of risk in whatever we do in lives, but it is important for the safety of our children and staff that we reduce the risk whenever possible and in whatever we can control.

Family Day Breakfast

A big shout out and thank you to all the parents and carers that assisted with the planning and conducting of the school's family breakfast conducted last week. We once again had a huge family turn out to this delightful school community event and a wonderful time was had by all.

Stars of the morning were once again our junior and senior choir performers and the NLPS concert band players. Thank you to all the students and to Tracey, Hannah and the Yr. 6 leaders for assisting with this amazing display of talent at NLPS.

Staff and student illness

Similar to almost all sectors of the community, we are presently experiencing a considerable amount of illness amongst our students and staff. Covid continues to be a concern as well as many other forms of sickness and ailments including gastro, colds and influenza.

We have been endeavouring to replace teachers when absent with CRTs (casual relief teachers) but due to teacher shortages this is not always possible. At times we even find that our arranged replacement staff are unable to turn up at school, often at very late notice, due to their own illness.

At times we are required to utilise our leadership team and specialist teachers to fill in, or, in some cases, split classes amongst other similar grade levels to ensure operation of the school.

Parents can also greatly assist by ensuring students that are, or maybe, unwell, or displaying any symptoms (coughs, runny nose, headaches, vomiting etc.), do not come to school and remain at home until they are feeling better and safe to be with other children and staff.

As much as we always want to have our children to attend school every day, if they are unwell then your child's classroom is not the best place for them for them to rest and recover, nor is it in the best interests of the health and safety of their peers and teacher.

Rapid Antigen Tests and masks continue to be available for families who require them. Please contact the front office if you would like some sent home with your child or put aside for collection.

Prep Enrolments 2024

This week we conclude the final of our five 2024 prep tours of the school but if any parents have a child that turns 5 before 30th April 2024, and would like to enrol them at Newport Lakes Primary School, please download the forms that are available on the school website (click [here](#)) or alternatively contact the office for assistance.

Enrolments for 2024 prep students should be lodged at the school office before the end of Term 2 (23rd June). Families that reside within our 'school zone' or have siblings already enrolled, are eligible for enrolment at NLPS in 2024.

It is very important for our school planning purposes that we are aware of any siblings that may be enrolling in Preps next year so please let the office know asap.

Congratulations

Lisa Richards has welcomed a little girl Finley Maree Robertson into the world at 2.20am on Tuesday. She is doing really well and we couldn't be any happier." Congratulations from the NLPS community



Farewell garden Seats

Earlier today we had the unveiling presentation of 2 garden benches in recognition of the services of two former and well-loved teachers at Newport lakes Primary School, Lee Rutledge and Warren Hales.

Between both teachers, there was a total of 62 years of teaching service to our school. Lee and Warren, presently enjoying their time in retirement, were both able to attend the presentation in front of many of the students that they cared for and taught whilst at NLPS.



I hope you all have a good week.

David Moss,
Principal

Building Fund & Library Fund Donations - Tax Deductable Donations

Thank you to the families who have already made contributions to these funds. Your support is greatly appreciated.

With the end of the financial year approaching, we would like to remind the community that any donations made to these funds are tax deductible. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact the office.

Lost Property

Lost property is overflowing! Please come in and check if any of your child's items are there to be collected. We also encourage parents to remind your child to be responsible and check for their belongings if they misplace items as well.

Please ensure all items are labelled with your child's name so they can be easily returned to classrooms. Any items without names will be put into the second hand uniform collection at the end of each term.



Changes to How We Utilise the Coffee Van on Wednesday Mornings

As you may have read via a Compass Newsfeed, we have been lucky enough to secure Patrick and his coffee van every Wednesday morning for the month of May. He makes a great coffee, so we'd encourage you to try it!

The service was bought in to provide the adults of the NLPS community a little mid-week treat and encourage parents to stick around and connect with to others over a hot drink as the mornings got cooler. Patrick is here from just after 8am to serve staff and stays until just after 9am, depending on parent demand and is happy to **continue the trial of this service for the remainder of the term 2.**

We certainly did not envision the enthusiasm from our students about this special service and unfortunately, we have had to make the call about who can access the service on school grounds. We have made the choice that **from now on, it will be exclusively for adult customers (i.e. staff, parents and carers only)** as the surging student demand was leading to unsafe practices (students with hot drinks in the busy playground and in our classrooms) and inequity in just how many could be served in the small window of time. Having to turn away a crowd of disappointed and sad students was not a pleasurable experience for anyone!

To ensure this equity, we would also ask that you purchase only something for yourself and not pass on a hot chocolate to your child/ren. It is not fair to those students that make their own way to school independently.

We hope that you can understand and support the school's decision – and also get to enjoy this service without having to wait behind a long line of students! Thank you.

Student Achievements

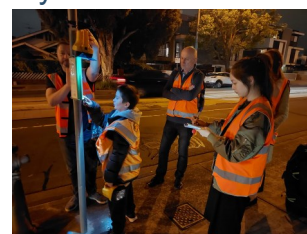
We are pleased to let you know that Cassie R has passed a Judo practical and knowledge test called a grading at the Resilience Judo Training Centre. This is no easy task and requires a great deal of practice. The grade is awarded by the presentation of a coloured Judo belt.

Junior Judo belts are in varying colours signifying age and expertise. Cassie has been awarded a Junior Green belt. Congratulations Cassie!

On Thursday the 20th of April Leo T was invited to participate in a Yarra Trams 'Lighting and Accessibility Workshop' stemming from his passion for train and tram travel and his regular feedback provided to Public Transport Victoria on his travel experiences. Leo's photos, videos, commentary and suggestions for improvement are so well received that he is known to have his own fan club at Public Transport Victoria. Yarra Trams asked Leo to travel from Tram Stop No. 51 on Route 82 and use his detailed knowledge of Tram travel to contribute to a current review of Tram Stop lighting. Leo was able to use his critical thinking to suggest design solutions that would make Tram travel more accessible for all travellers. Well done Leo for following your passion and actively demonstrating the NLPS values to support the travelling community.



Leo setting off



Leo showing how accessible lighting would improve the travelling experience

Science Day 2023

Science Day went off with a bang!

On the morning of Thursday the 11th May, Newport Lakes Primary School was a flurry of excitement with teachers collecting all sorts of things for the students to use to make discoveries, such as test tubes, bi carb soda, food colouring and packing peanuts!


After recess, students excitedly met in their multi-age groups to begin their first of four science experiment rotations. These experiments focused on chemical science and changing molecules.

We made art with bubbles by making an amazing bubble solution, constructed sculptures with packing peanuts (made from corn starch), cracked secret codes that had been made with a bi carb soda by covering them with a turmeric solution, and made disappearing treasure maps with yellow highlighter and lemons!

If you would like to experience a part of the Science Day magic with your child, here are the experiments for you to try at home.



Disappearing Highlighters



Materials:

- activity sheet (1 per person)
- white piece of paper (1 per person)
- highlighters (blue, green, pink, orange, yellow)
- a slice of lemon (2 per group)
- a cup with mixture of water and bicarb soda
- paint brush (1 per group)

Instructions:


Step 1. Use each colour highlighter to colour in the activity sheet.

Step 2. Gently wipe the slice of lemon across the bottom half of the sheet.
What happens?


Step 3. Dip the paintbrush into the water and bicarb mixture.

Step 4. Gently paint over the bottom half of the sheet with the highlighter markings.
What happens?

Step 5. Draw a treasure map with a YELLOW highlighter and go over it with a lemon.
What happens if you paint over your treasure map with the bicarb mixture?



Cracking the Code




Materials:


- Paper (one per person)
- Paint brush
- Turmeric
- Bicarb soda
- water

Instructions:

Step 1. Mix bicarb soda with water.




Step 2. Using a paint brush and the water solution, write a secret message on your piece of paper.



Wait for it to dry. *Can you see it?*


Step 3. Mix turmeric with water.



Discuss what you think will happen after you paint over the secret message with the turmeric water.

Step 4. Gently paint over the message with the turmeric water.
What happens?

Packing Peanut Creations




Materials:

- packing peanuts
- sponge soaked in water

Instructions:

1. Work together to come up with a design - be creative!
2. To stick the peanuts together, break the peanut in half and dip one end of the peanut into the wet sponge. Try not to soak the peanuts in the water for too long as they will dissolve and be too soft to use.
3. Stick the wet end of the peanut to a dry peanut. You can cut the peanuts before sticking them together if you need to.
4. Once you have tried to stick a couple together, use the packing peanuts and damp sponge to create a picture on a coloured piece of paper. Work together!



Bubble Pop Art



Materials:

- food colouring (red, green, blue, yellow)
- 4 test tubes
- 1 test tube holder
- dish washing liquid
- water
- straw (1 for each group member)
- paperhandout (1 for each group member)

Instructions:

1. Make the bubble solution by filling each test tube with water (about 3/4 of the way full).
2. Place 1 drop of food colouring into the test tube (1 colour per tube).
3. Place 1-2 drops of dishwashing liquid into each test tube.
4. Carefully mix the solutions by swirling the test tube around.
5. Use your straw to blow bubbles onto your paper.



Year 1 Animal Land Excursion

On Tuesday 2nd May, Year 1 students attended an action packed, hands on excursion to Animal Land. We rotated through a range of exciting activities which included milking a cow, riding a tractor trailer, planting seeds, visiting chickens, petting baby rabbits and guinea pigs, and feeding a range of farm animals including ducks, goats, alpacas, and many more.

The purpose of visiting Animal Land was to link to our Big Question of the term, 'What do land animals need in order to live?'. Our discoveries have already been applied during our class discussions, as well as explorations of the features of earthworms and snails.

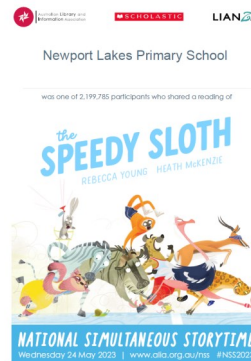
A huge thank you to all the parent helpers, Prue, Amelia, Joanne, Richard and Nathan - we couldn't have done it without you, and we hope you enjoyed the experience too!



Library News

Newport Lakes Primary School participated this week in the National Simultaneous Storytime. Each Prep-6 class was provided their own copy of *The Speedy Sloth* to read and discuss.

National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) is held annually. According to the Community Library website NSS is now in its 23rd successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children's book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Foundation to Year 6. Priscilla Patterson, Auslan teacher was able to present an Auslan video signing the story to some of her Auslan classes. Some of this week's library lessons and lunchtime activities centred around this special event.



Junior School Council - The Great Kindness Challenge

The JSC are very excited to announce that we are starting a new initiative called 'The Great Kindness Challenge.'

This challenge provides educators and students with the tools, opportunity, and encouragement to actively create a positive, respectful, and inclusive community for all.

This program was initially created to encourage students to actively promote kindness, to make schools and the world a better place in general for everybody's benefit. We have given every class a poster of suggestions of how to show kindness in a variety of ways. We hope that even after this challenge ends, everybody will continue their acts of kindness, and be able to fill somebody's bucket every day ☐

By Ollie 5/6E and Salome 5/6A.
Junior School Councilors

Parents Club

Our parent information session presented by the engaging Chrissie Davies, of <https://www.chaostocalmconsultancy.com>, has finally been rescheduled.

'What do you see when you look at me?' - an inspiring and informative community event Presented by Chrissie Davies

- Date: Tuesday the 6th June
- Time: 7:30 - 8:30pm
- Format: online

Free event - NLPS parents and carers only - we appreciate your understanding with this and ask that you do not forward the link. A new link is in the process of being organised. We will update you all with this in the coming days.

WHAT DO YOU SEE WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME?

An inspiring and informative community event

- Separating the child from the behaviour; supporting your child at home
- Viewing behaviour through a brain based lens
- Different but NOT less: being an inclusive and supportive community
- Neuro affirming language and perceptions about behaviour
- Naughty, rude, disruptive OR distressed, dysregulated, overwhelmed, in need of support?
- Why it is SO important for families and educators to work collaboratively in schools
- Understanding supports and accommodations in the classroom
- Utilising and communicating your knowledge and understanding of your child's needs: one is the EXPERT when it comes to your child and you have valuable knowledge to share
- Your role in your child's learning success
- The importance of a strengths based model in education for our neurodivergent kids

Chrissie Davies - The Child Charmer

Key Note Speaker
Author of "Love your brain"
Therapeutic educator
Passionate child advocate
Trauma informed approach
Neuro affirming education
Mama of two wildlings

www.chaostocalmconsultancy.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month	Date/s	Time	Event
MAY			
	Friday 26th	10:00am	2024 Prep Tour
			Year 5/6 Interschool Sport - Home
JUNE			
	Friday 2nd		Year 5/6 Interschool Sport Vs Altona PS playing at Civic Pde Oval
		3:45pm to 7:30pm	Band Camp
	Tuesday 6th	7:30pm to 8:30pm	Chaos to Calm Parent Webinar
	Thursday 8th		Year 1 Minibeast Incursion
	Friday 9th		Year 5/6 Interschool Sport - Vs Sacred Heart at local reserves
	Monday 12th		Public Holiday—No School
	Wednesday 14th		Prep 'Market Fresh' Incursion
	Wednesday 21st		Year 4 Excursion
	Friday 23rd	2.30pm dismissal	Last day of term 2
	Mon 26th June— Fri 7th July		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
JULY			
	Monday 17th		Athletics Carnival
	Friday 21st		Pupil Free Day
	Wednesday 26th		Year 4 Robogals Incursion

CALENDAR Continued....

Month	Date/s	Time	Event
AUGUST			
	Wednesday 16th		Literary Lights (more details tbc)
	Monday 21st		Book Week/Book Fair TBC
	Friday 18th		Year 5/6 Author Visit
	Thursday 24th		Year 1 & 4 Author Visit
	Friday 25th		Year 3 Author Visit
	Wednesday 30th		Prep Author Visit
SEPTEMBER			
	Friday 15th	2.30pm dismissal	Last day of term 3
	Mon 18th—Fri 29th		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
OCTOBER			
	Monday 2nd		Term 4 Commences
	Friday 6th		OK2BEME Day
NOVEMBER			
	Monday 6th		Pupil Free Day –no students at school
	Tuesday 7th		Public Holiday—No School
	Wed 8th — Fri 10th		Art Show
	Thursday 23rd		Year 5/6 Robogals Incursion
	Friday 24th		Year 5/6 Robogals Incursion
DECEMBER			
	Wednesday 20th	1.30pm dismissal	Last day of term 4

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS



WILLIAMSTOWN FOOTBALL CLUB JUNIOR ACADEMY

- ✓ 5 x specialised sessions
- ✓ Skill and Technique Development
- ✓ High-performance Coaching/Testing
- ✓ Train with WFC's elite staff and players
- ✓ Access to DSV stadium and facilities
- ✓ Ages Groups: 9-10yrs & 11-12yrs
- ✓ \$350. Includes merchandise pack
- ✓ Limited Availability

DETAILS

Price: **\$350**
Incl. Merch Pack and free WFC membership.

Ages: 9-10yrs & 11-12yrs

Session Dates:

- Monday 29th May 4.15pm - 5.45pm
- Monday 19th June 4.15pm - 5.45pm
- Tuesday 4th July 2pm - 4pm
- Thursday 6th July 2pm - 4pm
- Thursday 20th July 4.15pm - 5.45pm

Saturday 22nd July (TBC)
BBQ Breakup, Presentation & half-time Academy Game
Limited spots available.

OVERVIEW

The Williamstown Football Club Academy is a high-performance football talent program for emerging junior players aged 9-12yrs in Hobsons Bay.

The program is designed to provide players with access to WFC's elite coaching and playing staff whilst training at our first-class facility at DSV stadium.

Over 5 specialised sessions your child will learn the fundamentals of football, focusing on strengthening players abilities and providing a unique football development opportunity for young boys and girls.



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

✉ admin@williamstownfc.com.au

📍 DSV Stadium
Morris Street, Williamstown

Limited spots available.



together



better

Educating girls and boys together for 32+ years. We are the leading inner-city **co-ed** Catholic Secondary College on two spacious, convenient campuses.

Book a tour today to find out more.



We lift students higher



Community Asthma Program

Does your child have asthma or pre-school wheeze?



cohealth
care for all

For any child between 1-17yrs who uses Ventolin. Support can be provided as a home visit, at one of our local clinics, or by telehealth.

A nurse educator will help you:

- manage your child's asthma action plan
- understand and follow your child's asthma action plan
- better understand your child's medications
- learn how to use asthma devices
- talk to your child's school, childcare or GP

cohealth

9448 6825
CAP@cohealth.org.au
Fax: 7000 1829

DPV Health

8339 8861
communityasthma@dpvhealth.org.au
Fax: 8339 9898



Free asthma education and support

Calling All Aspiring Matildas!

Play for South Melbourne Women's FC!

BOOK IN FOR A FREE TRIAL!



U9 and U10's 2023 Membership fee: \$123
U11, U12, U13's 2023 Membership fee: \$223

Membership fee includes player's kit, Football Victoria fees, coaching once/twice a week at Albert Park & weekend matches.

"My weekly football training has taught me to think on the ball and has given me confidence to participate in football matches. It's a fun way to get active and make new friends!"
Emily L, Year 4, Windsor Primary School.

SCAN ME



U12 HOCKEY

Footscray Hockey Club are on the lookout for girls and boys who are keen to try out hockey in our beginners Under 12 teams! We are looking for players born in 2011 and 2012

Girls training is held on Tuesday nights with boys training on a Thursday night at Footscray Hockey Center at 5.30 pm with games around Western Melbourne on Saturday mornings.

We have an introductory 5 Game Membership and equipment loan available to those that are interested in giving it a go!

Please contact Mel Sanders at juniors@footscrayhockey.com.au



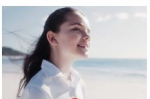
 AUSTRALIAN GIRLS CHOIR



An experience that goes far beyond the stage!

Girls blossom as members of the AGC, both on and off the stage. Your daughter will develop confidence, public speaking and presentation skills, resilience and friendships that will last a lifetime. Our senior performers have shared the stage with a long list of artists including Hugh Jackman, Amy Shark and Kylie Minogue. We are proud to have represented Qantas for 20 years in the iconic 'I Still Call Australia Home' advertising campaigns and at hundreds of live events.

Now accepting Semester 2 enrolments for our rehearsal venues in Borwick, Box Hill, Caulfield North, Cheltenham, Essendon, Glen Waverley, Greensborough, Heidelberg, Ivanhoe, Kew, Ringwood and Yarraville.



JOIN US AT OUR JUNE OPEN DAY

Register now at ausgirlschoir.com.au/joinagc or phone 03 9859 6499

 AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

