

NEWBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be A Learner"

2024 TERM DATES

Term 1	30 January	6 April
Term 2	15 April	28 June
Term 3	15 July	20 September
Term 4	7 Oct	20 December



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NEWSLETTER

Welcome back after the Easter school holidays!

I hope you enjoyed having time with your children. For some, it is the reduced pressure of having to get up for school. For others, it is juggling the care of children while you are working.

It was wonderful seeing the smiling faces back on Monday.

Student behaviour

Last term we continued our focus on supporting our students to manage their emotions and expectations. Kids (and adults) love routine. The staff have been working hard on ensuring that we have routines and procedures for all aspects of school. This goes as far as the order they line up in when they come into the classroom, move between classrooms or just move around the school as a whole class. Many of our issues going into the classroom and between classrooms came from who ran to the front of the line first, whether your friend 'saved' you a place or not, and lots of 'pushing in'. By having a line order, the pressure of lining up is taken away.

Many of the classes have set places for the kids to sit at their tables and on the floor. This takes the pressure off who to sit next to – rather the focus is on what they need to do once they are seated.

Behaviour for the first two days

I am delighted to say that the school has been incredibly settled over the past few days. When I walk into the classrooms, the kids are happy and engaged in their work. The yard is really settled; with everyone finding something to do. Coming back from school holidays can be tricky for some kids – the fact they have been so settled is to be celebrated – the work that we have been undertaking is coming through.

Front entrance – Red door

If you have been to the office this week you will notice the new red door and glass panelling.

Every decision I make at school is based on what is best for the students (if we focus on what is best for the students, it always comes out best for the adults too). Prior to the black fence being installed, the students accessed the office and sickbay through the front door. Once the black fence was installed, the students were unable to access the front door. All students went through the staffroom.

Mid last year we moved the staffroom to the library and moved the library next to the Brekky Club Room – this was done to make it easier (less daunting) for the students to come to the office to seek help, particularly during recess and lunch time. Instead of going through the staffroom, they came to the 'kitchen' door to ask for help and then could go through to the office without having to interrupt the staff.

While this worked, it meant that our library was in the old portable, rather than being in the new building, which is more inviting to borrow books.

The red door has been installed to allow students to access the front office again, without going into the visitors' carpark at the front of the office.

The next step I am looking into is covering in the decking area at the office, as it gets incredibly wet, and the doors slam when it is windy.

Again, the decision to put the door in was made because it was in the best interest of the students – getting the library back into a room that is inviting for them to borrow books in. These little things matter.



"We acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet each day, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging."

Parent leaving after the bell has gone.

In the mornings we have several parents that walk their children into class (which is wonderful). There are times when the gates are locked prior to all parents leaving (so the students remember to go to the office to get their late pass); if the gates are locked, please head out via the red door. If you have a pram, please still come through the staffroom.

Business Manager

Hayley has decided that the role of Business Manager is not for her. The role is so much bigger than it seems (and the processes for training new business managers is not simple). The position was advertised towards the end of last term. Jo-Anne Michie was the successful applicant. Jo has been our business manager in the past. It is wonderful to have Jo back again.

Uniforms

We are having another crackdown on the clothes that the students are wearing to school. Please make sure that the students are coming to school in their uniform. The main issues we have are students coming to school in different jumpers and wearing jeans. The students will be given other clothes to change into if they come to school out of uniform. I know there are days when the washing hasn't dried – please let us know (Dojo or a physical note) so we can grab some clothes for them to swap into.

Mrs Tang

Mrs Tang is currently on leave. She is due to return towards the end of term. Krystal is studying to be a social worker (while working as an aide). Krystal is on a 100-day placement for her course. Krystal is looking forward to coming back later in the term – she is really missing the kids.

Hayley is filling in for Krystal, both in the classroom and at Brekky Club, while Krystal is on leave.

Pie Warmer

A reminder that we have a pie warmer available for the students to use each day. The pie warmer lives in the Brekky Club room. Students place their food in the pie warmer before school and it is brought to their classroom at lunch time. Students can bring anything that can go in either a foil container or wrapped in foil.

No plastic containers please.

Please make sure their name is written on the item – it is really tricky to write it on when it gets to school, as textas don't like writing on cold foil.

Asthma plans

We are currently updating all asthma plans to make sure they are still current. Jo-Anne (our Business Manager) has been contacting all parents of our asthmatic students.

It is important that we get these updated as quickly as possible.

Staff phone calls home

We are working incredibly hard to be more effective in our communication with parents. All teachers will be making contact with parents over the term to let you know some positives of what your child has been doing – we want to make sure we are calling you for positives not just the negatives. Please don't panic when the school number comes up.

Parents contacting staff

We love it when our parents contact the staff. The easiest method is through Class Dojo. Please understand that the teachers are not checking their Dojo during the school day, as they are totally engaged in their teaching. If you need to get a message to your child during the day, please call the office and we will get the message to them. The teachers are incredibly dedicated to their work and spend many hours at night and on the weekends on planning, assessment and making sure their classrooms are of a high quality. If you send a message to the staff after school hours, please understand that the staff have clocked off, so you may not hear back until the next day.

Kind regards,

Christine.

What's on in Term 2....

- **April 15 Term 2 begins**
- **April 24 Lowanna College Open Day Grades 5 & 6**
- **April 25 ANZAC Day Public Holiday**
- **April 29 School Council @ 5:15pm**
- **May 7 Winter Sports @ Lowanna College
Senior students**
- **May 10 Mother's Day Celebration
Mother's Day Stall**
- **May 15 Melbourne Arts Centre "All Stars" Grades 3-6**
- **May 20-21 WV Athletics Selected students**
- **June 10 King's Birthday Public Holiday**
- **June 28 Last day of Term 2**
- **Dismissal 2:30pm**

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is very important for your child's learning and social development.

Of course, sometimes children are sick and need to stay home to get well - and that's OK!

But other than that, children need to be at school as much as possible to ensure the BEST opportunity for learning.

If your child is absent please enter their absence via the Compass parent portal or alternatively call the school on 51271448 as soon as possible.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR CHILD IS THERE

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates.

It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

IN VICTORIA SCHOOL IS COMPULSORY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6 -17 YEARS

Student Absences

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and developing good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

Family holidays - It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure that you talk to your child's school in advance, and work with them to develop an absence learning plan.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.



Every Minute Matters
BE A HERO
Here Every day Ready On time

School refusal - School refusing children will experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school. See: [My child or teenager has anxiety](#)

BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR ONE DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING 1.5 YEARS OVER 13 YEARS OF SCHOOL

If your child is away

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

Inform the school

- Speak with your child's classroom teacher and find out what work they need to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, **every day counts**. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parent/s.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Top attendance tips for parents

- Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support
- Remember that every day counts
- There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term
- Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/studentmanagement/attendance/Pages/improve-attendance.aspx>

Student Birthdays!

April

- 1 Chelsea Gr 3/4**
- 2 Sky Gr 1/2**
- 3 Delylah O. Gr 1/2**
- 8 Xander Gr 3/4**
- 12 Ruby Gr 5/6**
- Taylah Gr 5/6**
- 14 Chaiyse Gr 1/2**
- 20 Isabelle Gr 1/2**
- 21 Lilybeth Prep/1**
- 22 Oliver Gr 3/4**
- 30 Harper B. Gr 4/5**





In celebration of Mother's Day, Mothers and Special Others are invited to join us for various activities in the classrooms on Friday May 10 from 12:30PM.

Families are welcome to bring lunch for a picnic at 1:15PM and the event will conclude at 1:30PM.

We are kindly asking for donations for our Mother's Day Stall with the tentative date for the stall also on this day. Donations can be handed in to the school office. All gifts will be \$5 each, and students will need to pay at the office prior to the event.

Thank you!

THINGS TO REMEMBER....

ENJOY A HEALTHY START AT

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club is
open every
morning between
8am-8:30am



All students welcome!

FOOD BANK

Our FOODBANK Pantry is open every day
between 8am-8:45am and 3pm-3:30pm.
Please feel free to come to the Brekky Club
room to collect what you need.

2025 Enrolments are open!

Please contact our school office or go
to our website.

<https://newboroughps.vic.edu.au/>

School Times

- 8:45 1st Session
- 9:45 2nd Session
- 10:45 Eating Time
(supervised)
- 10:55 Recess
- 11:30 3rd Session
- 12:30 4th session
- 1:30 Students supervised
to eat lunch
- 1:40 Lunch Recess
- 2:15 5th Session
- 3:15 Dismissal



Hot Chocolates

Now that the weather is cooler, Hot
Chocolate Fridays are back! They are 50
cents each and payment needs to be made at
the office before the first bell.





TheiCare

where Kids love to be!

**Newborough Primary School
Before School & After School Program**

**Monday-Friday
Before School 6:30am-8:45am
After School 3:15pm-6:00pm**

TheiCare offer structured daily activities for the children to participate in.

During each session there are many opportunities for the children to learn and explore.

Breakfast is supplied in the before school session and afternoon tea in the afternoon session.

If you would like further information about enrolling your child in the program, please email TheiCare at newborough@theircare.com.au

or call

[0458 100 073/1300 072 410](tel:0458100073)

<https://theircare.com.au/>



**Newborough Primary School
24 Murray Road Newborough**

AFL

PLAY



come
find your
awesome



play.afl/auskick



