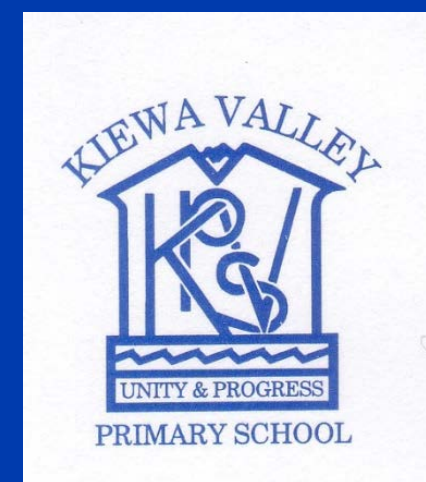


Kiewa Valley Primary School Newsletter



Week 04	Mon 16th School Council Meeting Getting to know you chats from 3.45pm	Tues 17th	Wed 18th FOUNDATIONS REST Day School Council Meeting Getting to know you chats from 3.45pm	Thurs 19th	Fri 20th	Sat/Sun
Week 05	Mon 23rd	Tues 24th	Wed 25th	Thurs 26th	Fri 27th DIVISION SWIMMING	Sat/Sun
Week 06	Mon 2nd	Tues 3rd	Wed 4th	Thur 5th	Fri 6th	Sat/Sun

PRINCIPAL UPDATE AND MESSAGE

GETTING TO KNOW YOU CHATS:

Monday and Wednesday 3.45pm to 5.15pm this week. Are on this week. Bookings can be made via COMPASS under the Conference drop down under the two people on the tool bar. Please make a time to catch-up with your child's teacher they can be done face-to-face or via WebEx if required. We hope to see as many parents and carers through the school possible this week.

Foundation parents will be having their meetings during the schedules FOundation Assessment days so you do not need to book

WELLBEING:

As Ms Grogan has stepped into the classroom Term 1, this is just a reminder that whenever you have an academic or wellbeing concern the **first person** you should speak with is **ALWAYS the CLASSROOM TEACHER**. Creating strong partnerships between parents and carers and teachers and ES is critical to the ongoing growth of your child. Week 4 will be the GETTING TO KNOW YOU CHATS - on Monday and Wednesday evening. Foundation parents will be having seperate interviews with families as part of the Wednesday assessment day for Foundation. We are looking for 90% engagement from parents and carers on these interviews - so please book a time and reach out to the Classroom Teacher if you need an alternate time that week.

INVISIBLE AWARDS:

At KVPS we work very hard to ensure that no child feels 'invisible'. Sometimes students can feel unseen, they might not be progressing with their learning, not behavioural issues, and just coasting along, but at KVPS we reward students for the little things. Hazel Doan received her invisible award for amazing manners at the Office. Tanyia was so grateful that a Foundation student had such great manners and could explain very clearly what she needed at the Office and who she was. Great work Hazel.

SCHOOL COUNCIL - CALLING FOR PARENT MEMBERS NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

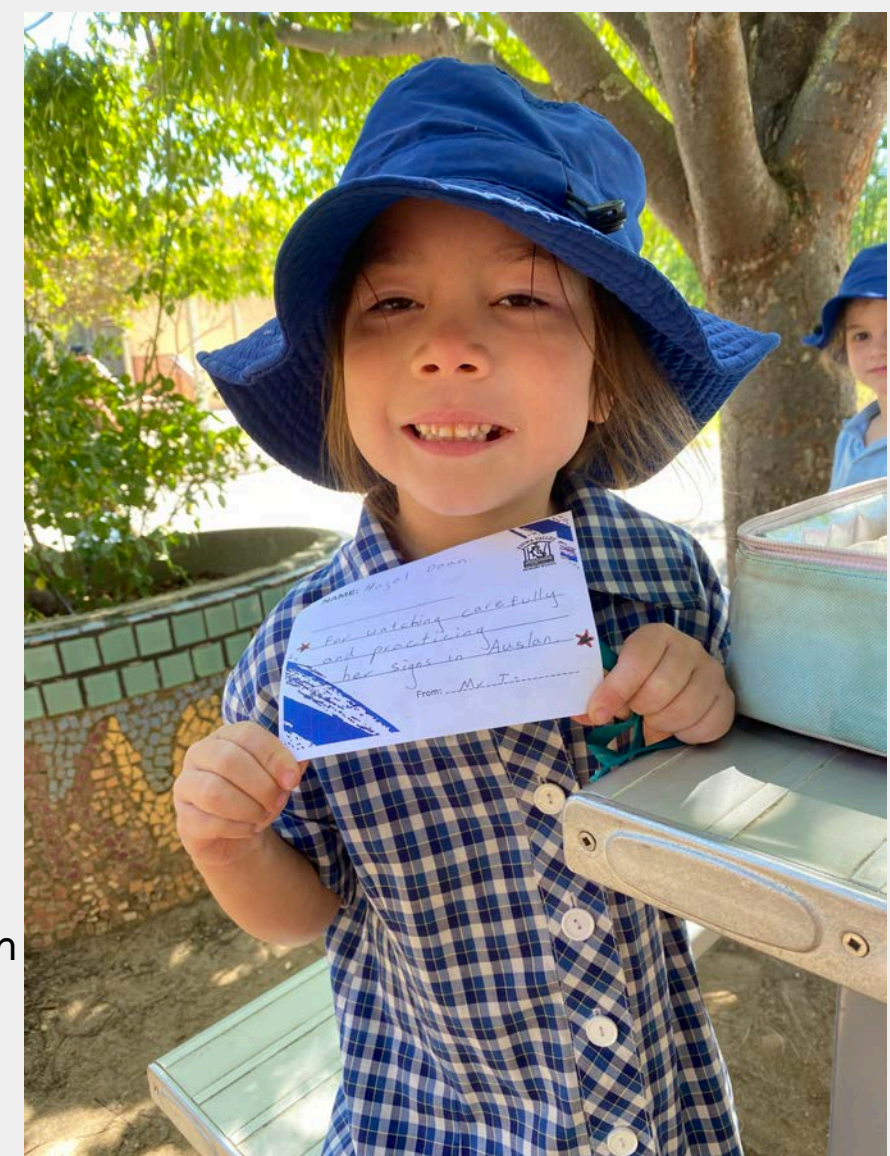
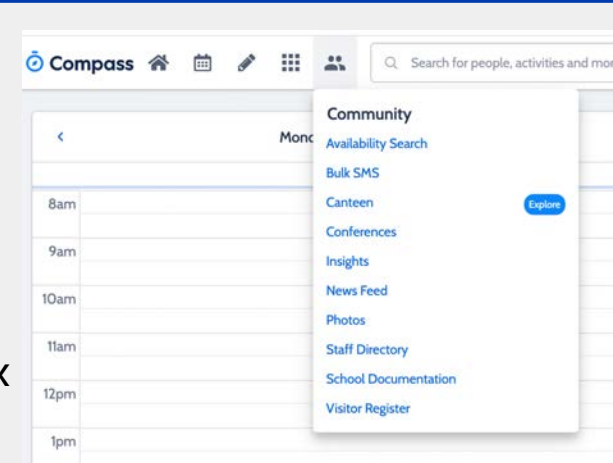
An election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Kiewa Valley Primary School. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by **4.00 pm on: Friday 20th of Feb 2026**. Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

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

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY - Parent Members

NUMBER OF POSITIONS - two by 1 year appointments and one by two year appointment.

If there are more nominations than positions a ballot and election will be undertaken - more information to come.



I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional custodians of the lands on which we live, learn and play. We acknowledge and show our respects to elders both past and present and we come together on the lands, the hills, the valleys and rivers to join in community, to share knowledge and culture and contributions of all first nation peoples on this land.

ATTENDANCE

It is critical for the ongoing positive engagement in education that students are at school every day. **This means reTHINKING when we take holidays and take time off for SPECIAL EVENTS.** We are aiming for 80% of our students having 95% attendance (missing 10 or less days a year). Each week I will be calculating how we are tracking towards this and will be reporting it in the newsletter currently we are sitting on **63% - already BELOW the target!! This is 9% down on last weeks number.**

Department of Education, Training and Employment

Every day counts

MOST STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL EVERY DAY

It's important that children are at school all day, every day

OK reasons to stay home from school

- sick
- natural disasters

It's **NOT OK** to skip school to shop, sleep in, finish an assignment, go on holidays

EVERY DAY AT SCHOOL COUNTS

Missing even 1 day can make a difference

1 day off school each fortnight = Missing more than a year of learning over 12 years

Each day's learning builds on what has been learnt before

Good attendance begins in Prep It's where good habits begin

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Each 1% increase in student attendance may relate to 2-3 NAPLAN scale score points *

*Based on historical data.

What parents can do

- Promote the importance of school
- Get to know the teacher
- Go to school events
- Read the school newsletter
- Be organised at home
- Supervise homework
- Ask about your child's day
- Volunteer to help at school

Get involved in your child's school

For more information

Go to the **Every day counts** website: <http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/>

Sweden Education Shift: From Digital Learning to Pen and Paper

I was reading a very interesting article over the weekend that was investigating declining literacy rates in Scandinavian Countries. The impacts on over reliance on technology has been directly linked to their decreasing literacy levels.

They noted the drawbacks of too much technology are "The retreat from digital tools wasn't arbitrary. Sweden's experience highlights several challenges of relying too much on technology in schools:

- Declining literacy rates: Higher levels of screen-based learning were associated with weaker reading comprehension and vocabulary development, particularly in early grades. International reading assessments, including the PIRLS study, showed that Swedish students' reading comprehension scores declined between 2016 and 2021, prompting concern among educators and policymakers about reading outcomes compared with earlier student cohorts.
- Concentration issues: With digital devices, distractions like notifications and multitasking reduced focus. Teachers reported students struggled to sustain attention.
- Reduced teacher-student interaction: Technology sometimes limited in-person communication and classroom discussions."

The Victorian Department of Education has bought in new guidelines of reduced device time for every year level in Primary School and we decided as a school to go a year early on the implementation. Now it seems we weren't the only Educational System to challenge the reliance of technology in education.

To read the full article
[Article Link](#)

160 nights reading and Attendance Award

Each year every student who has read for at least 160 nights will receive a certificate and a free book. Please remember the importance of hearing your child read every night. There is strong connection amongst years of research that say if a child's reading ability (accuracy, fluency and comprehension) is high their overall academic performance is improved. If your child is NOT bringing home a reader a every night - please chat to the class teacher about this at this weeks "getting to Know you Chat". To keep the momentum of reading nightly on our students radars we do have a reading award at assembly. Every week your child reads for at least 5 nights - they will get a raffle ticket it he whole school draw. Once again to be drawn out students need to be present at Assembly.

We also have an Attendance Award at ever assembly. There are two requirements to be in the running for the attednace award: 1. 95% attendance for the month and 2. Ensure you are at school on the day of Assembly to be in the draw to win. Ms Grogan will gift the lucky winners a Kmart Voucher.



Onsite External Private Therapists

If your child has had external therapists working onsite with them at school, and they would like to continue this year, please ensure they check in with Felicite to avoid any delays. We need to ensure all paperwork is up to date and they also need to book dates and times as we have limited space this year. Thank you to those families who have already organised this which has meant their therapists so far have been able to access thier preferred times.

For anyone who would like for their external therapists to work onsite at school with their child, please ensure you contact Felicite to find out the process. The department has strict guidelines which need to be followed.

We need...paper towel/cling wrap/foil cardboard rolls

In a few weeks we are aiming for all students to create an 'emu caller' as part of our work with our Koorie Engagement Support Officer, Tim Clark.

Therefore we need approx 150 cardboard rolls (not toilet rolls). Could you please send any rolls in to the office as you use them. Please ask friends and family to start collecting also - we know not everyone uses paper towel. No need for names, we will just have a big collection for every student to access one.

Thanks to everyone who has been sending the in, however we still need lots more!



Carpark - A reminder that the kindergarten car park is ONLY for kindergarten students and families. All Foundation families need to park in the carpark and walk up the pathway. There is NO PEDESTRIAN access through the kinder carpark by crossing the road.

This is for effective traffic movement and the safety of all.

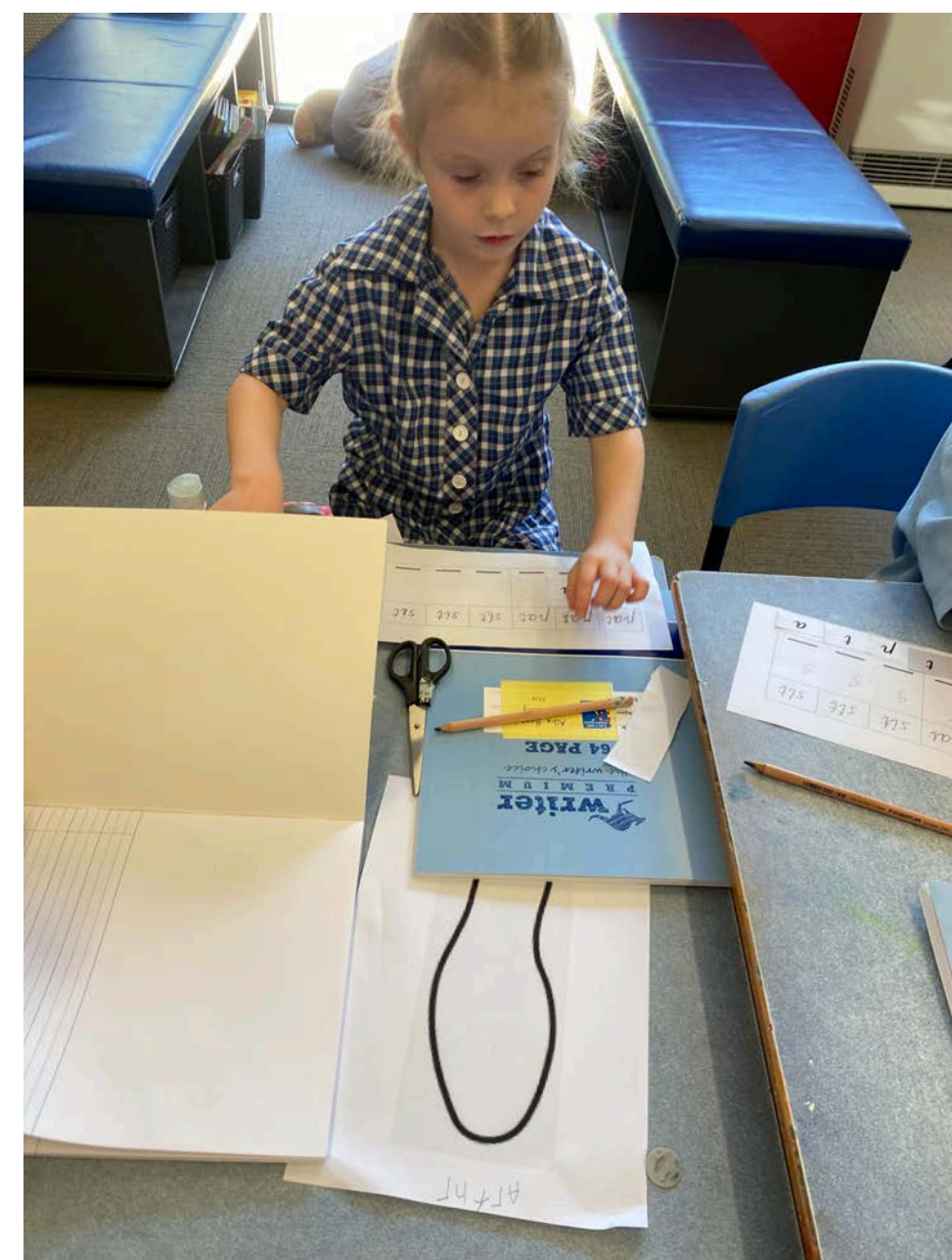
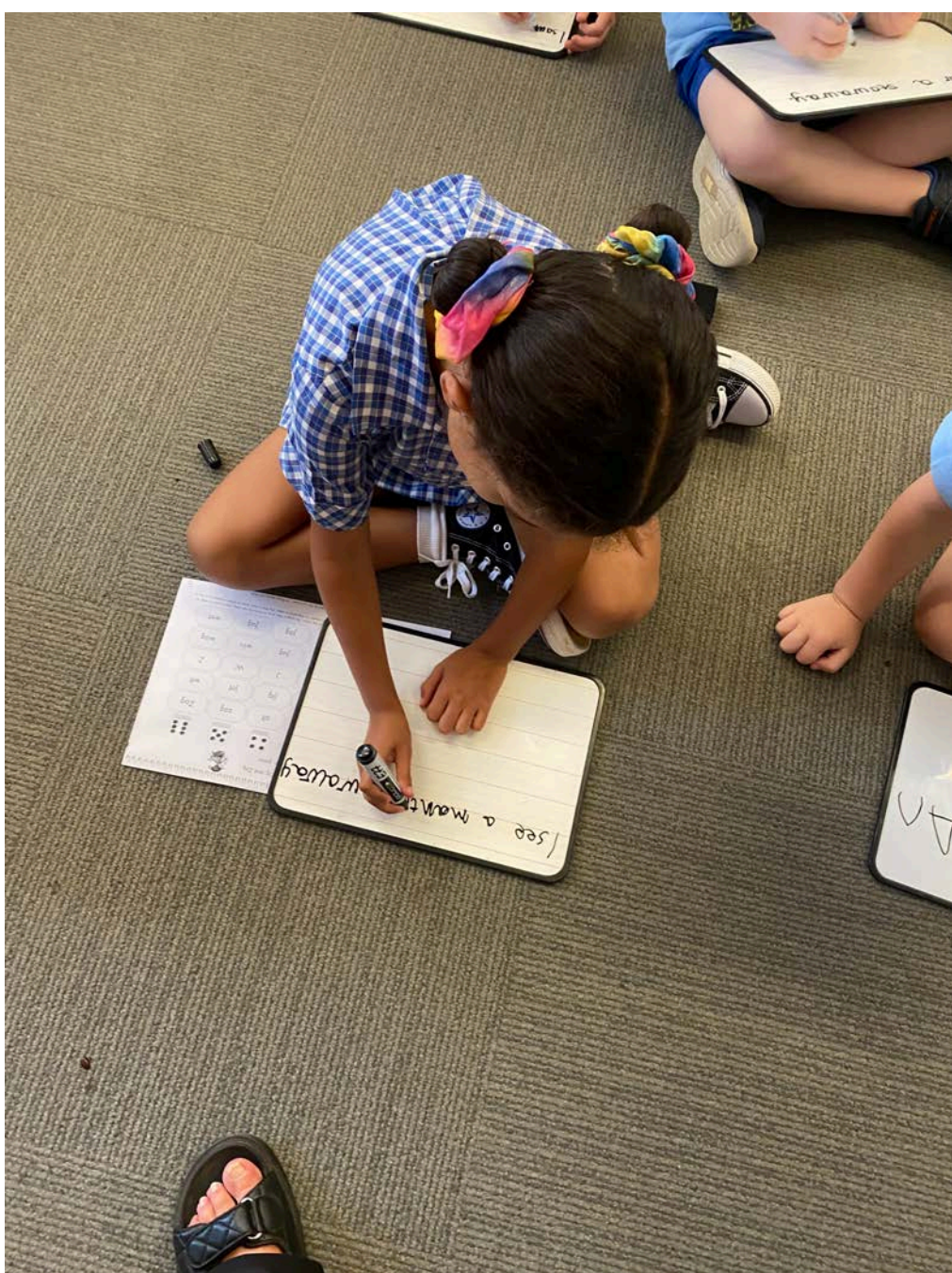


UNORGANISED LUNCH CLUB



Our Senior students have taken it upon themselves to run Netball Clinics with the F to 3 students. They have been playing netball games during lunch time and had drawn a BIG crowd, so decided to teach some skills and the game to the younger students instead. JUST ANOTHER REASON WHY KVPS is a GREAT SCHOOL - our students take time and care to share skills with the younger students - not exclude them!

LITERACY TIME in F1



Our F1 students engage in 30mins of explicit Phonics Instruction every day as they learn to read and write



It was amazing to see our new Foundation students take up the challenging of writing last week.



DOGS CONNECT
RESTORING BALANCE



Coming Soon...

We are excited to announce that we have partnered with the Dogs Connect Program and will be introducing a wellbeing dog to our school.

In this unique approach the focus is on broad scale connectedness and wellbeing across the entire school community. This is something that will be very carefully introduced and our dog will not be onsite at school for quite some time yet. In this time, we will be preparing the whole community for this introduction.

This is an evidence-based program that is underpinned by best practice, and we welcome you to look over the website to gain more of an idea of what the program is about. <https://dogsconnect.net.au>

Please see the youtube video below which provides a 'Community Introduction' by Grant, the founder of Dogs Connect.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrVq2D-lo1E>

We are yet to make a big announcement to the students. It's important that families have this information first and have time to consider and get excited for this new addition to our school. We are not keeping it a secret from our students, we are more than happy for families to have a discussion together and think of all the benefits a wellbeing dog could bring to KVPS.

In the coming weeks, we will bring all of the students together to share and celebrate the news.

In the meantime, feel free to contact Felicite or Kelli with any queries.

Stay tuned as there will be lots of information being shared with you in the next few weeks!



With Blackberry Jam Bush Band

Kergunyah ah

ANNUAL BUSH DANCE

Saturday 14 February 2026
6.30pm

KERGUNYAH HALL

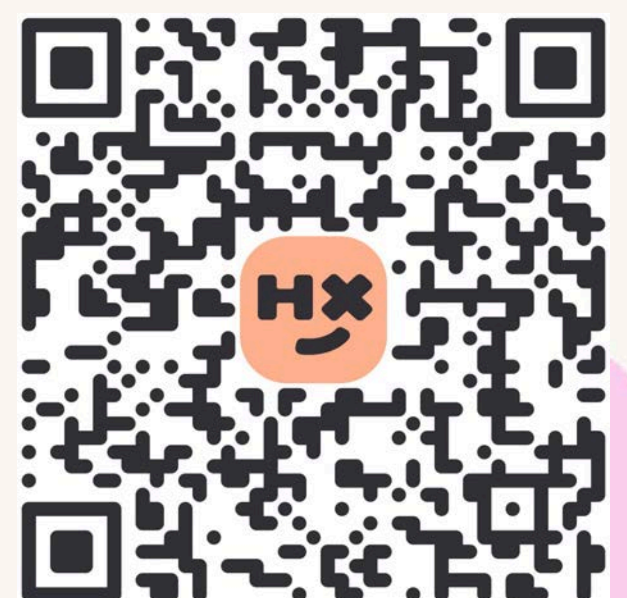
BYO Drinks - Nibbles

REGISTER NOW!

events.humanitix.com/kergunyahbushdance

Tickets to this event are free thanks to the Indigo Shire Events Grant.

Raffles, games and fun to be had!



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School Ref ID

+ Applicant details

Surname	
First Name	
Address	
Town/Suburb	
State and Postcode	
Contact Number	

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - -

OR Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)* **OR** Special Consideration**

*Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

**Out of Home Care applications must include a letter of support from the institution facilitating the arrangement (for example, Mackillop Family Services or the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)) as evidence of the arrangement and must be no more than 18 months old).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

Declaration

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders. I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ___ / ___ /202__

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund eligibility

Applications must be submitted to the school as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Where a school or family is unsure if the concession card is eligible, they are encouraged to submit the application into the CSEF system for validation.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Those who are eligible to apply for the CSEF **must meet both** of the following two criteria or be eligible for special consideration.

Eligible means-tested cards

Only financially means-tested cards are eligible.

Eligibility date

Eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (refer to the department's policy, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\)](#)), on either the first student day of Term 1 or Term 2.

Criterion 1 – General eligibility

The applicant must be one of the following:

- a parent or carer who is the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card
- a student over 16 years who is considered a mature minor and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card). Applicant to use the 16 and over application form. For guidance on assessing whether a student is a mature minor, refer to the department's policy on [Mature Minors and Decision Making](#)
- a parent or carer whose child is 16 or over and the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card but are not considered a mature minor. Applicant to use the 16 and over parent consent form.

For students over 16 years of age and where the eligible card is in the name of the student, the fund is only granted to that student, not their siblings.

Criterion 2 – Be of school age and attend a Victorian school

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a registered Victorian school.

CSEF is not payable to a student attending pre-school, kindergarten, TAFE or who are home schooled.

Special Consideration

A special consideration eligibility category exists to assist families and students in certain circumstances. Applications should be made through this application form. For more information, refer to: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility](#).

Payment amounts

The CSEF is an annual payment paid directly to the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the department's policy for the current rates and more information, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts](#).

How to complete the application form

Note: all sections must be completed by the applicant.

1. Complete the APPLICANT DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Privacy Statement

The Department of Education is committed to protecting your privacy. All information collected will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). This personal information is collected to assess your eligibility to receive a CSEF payment. Your data is securely managed and only shared with Centrelink and DFFH when necessary for business operations or legal compliance. By submitting this form, you consent to our data practices. For more information regarding correction to your personal information or the handling of personal information please email csef@education.vic.gov.au. For more information about the departments privacy policy, please visit: [Schools' privacy policy | vic.gov.au](#)

NAPLAN 2026

Information for parents and carers



Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum, and allows parents and carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working, and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content aligned to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials. To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program.

Information on adjustments available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs is provided in the National protocols for test administration. Schools should work with parents, carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the National protocols for test administration (linked above), NAPLAN public demonstration site, the Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN, and our series of videos where parents, carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. However, it is not necessary for parents and carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers. See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at NAP – Public demonstration site.

How is my child's performance reported?

NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected of the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly on what has been taught in previous years of schooling.

Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school. If further assistance is required, you should contact your relevant state or territory test administration authority. ACARA cannot provide individual student reports.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students, parents and carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA manages personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy.

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame. The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 11 March 2026 and finishes on Monday 23 March 2026. Schools **must** schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students must do the writing test on paper on day 1 only. Years 5, 7 and 9 writing tests must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing on day 1, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations).	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are given an idea or topic called a writing stimulus (or prompt) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
Reading	To be completed after the writing test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
Conventions of language	To be completed after the reading test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.

YEARLY EVENTS FOR KVPS

JANUARY



FEBRUARY

WELCOME BACK COFFEE and meet with the Principal - Friday 13th from 8.30am to 9.30am
GETTING TO KNOW YOU CHATS 16th Feb to 20th Feb

MARCH

BADGE PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY Fri 6th

STUDENT FREE DAY Tuesday 10th

NAPLAN Yr 3 and 5 from 11th Fri

27th March - Harmony Day from 12pm Fete from 2pm to 5pm

APRIL

Wednesday 22nd - Athletics Day

Friday 24th April - Anzac Day Service at school 10am

MAY

Year 3 and 4 CAMP - Mon 4th & Tues

5th PHOTO DAY

Wed 6th Friday 8th May Mothers Day Stall and Breakfast Kinder KVPS Joint

RECONCILIATION Week 25th May to 29th

JUNE

STUDENT FREE DAY Friday 5th

JULY

NAIDOC WEEK - 13th to 17th

Prep 100 Day of School

AUGUST

Arts Festival 10th Aug to 14th Aug
BULLYING NO WAY WEEK - 17th to 21st

BOOK WEEK 24th - 27th Kinder and KVPS joint

SEPTEMBER

Friday 4th Father's Day Stall and Breakfast Kinder KVPS joint

R U OK Day 10th

OCTOBER

F/1 Swimming 5th to 9th
2-4 Swimming 12th to 16th
56 Swimming 19th to 24th

YEAR 5 and 6 CAMP Tues 6th to 9th

NOVEMBER

Monday 2nd November Student Free Day (Melbourne Cup Tuesday 3rd)
Student Free Day Mon 30th

DECEMBER

Statewide Transition Day 8th

Year 6 Graduation Thursday 10th 6pm
Pool Party Mon 14th
PICNIC 15th Dec K to 6
Student Free Day 18th Dec