



*Our Cultural Diversity Mural in the foyer encompasses our 326 students at Lalor North Primary School. It includes the languages spoken in our school community as well as greetings in the languages. The mural celebrates all our cultures, the diversity in our community and of course the value of Unity.*

**Acknowledgement to Country**

We are learning on Wurundjeri Country and in the spirit of reconciliation, Lalor North Primary School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are learning. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



# Important Dates

2025

## Week 9, Term 1

- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Greek Independence Day
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Lalor District Athletics Carnival
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March – School Council Meeting 6pm
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Playgroup 9am–10am
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Breakfast Club
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Choir Bethal Aged Care Visit
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Interschool Sport
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Whole School Assembly

## Week 10, Term 1

- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Playgroup 9am–10am
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Breakfast Club
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Colour Fun Run 2pm
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Interschool Sport
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Newsletter
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Raffle Draw
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Final Day Term 1, 2pm Finish

## Week 1, Term 2

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Monday Public Holiday
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Term 2 Begins
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – World Earth Day
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – RSL Badges for Sale
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – ANZAC Service 9.10am–10am
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Playgroup 9am–10am
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Curriculum Day
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day Public Holiday

# Our School Values

## Honesty

*We communicate openly and work together to solve problems. By demonstrating honesty and acting with integrity we build trust, which enables us to collaborate, to take greater risks with our learning and to be more resilient when things go wrong.*

## Respect

*We respect ourselves, our school and each other, and understand that our attitudes and behaviour have an impact on the people around us.*

## Unity

*We have many languages, come from many backgrounds and are a school of many differences, but we speak with one voice, as one school. We develop a sense of connection and belonging within each part of our school, and across the whole school.*

## Success

*We help each other learn so that everyone experiences success every day. Success means doing new things, learning new skills, finding new ways of thinking and solving interesting, complex and challenging problems.*

## Resilience

*We know trying new things, experiencing challenges and bouncing back from adversity are central to life and to learning. Only by building our resilience can we experience strong levels of growth.*



## Principal's Message

Hello everyone!

We are especially proud to reflect on the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our vibrant school community here at Lalor North Primary School. This was certainly evident when we created our whole school mural this week. Our school is a place where we celebrate not only academic achievement but also the unique identities, languages, and backgrounds that each of our students. Diversity is one of our greatest strengths, and we believe it is important for us to take the time to learn from each other and celebrate together like we did this week for Cultural Diversity Week.

Our students have had the opportunity to engage in a variety of activities that encouraged understanding of the different cultures and identities in our school. Teachers have incorporated lessons that focused on the importance of empathy, respect, and understanding as we explore the rich histories and traditions of the different cultures represented at our school.

At the heart of our school is a commitment to ensuring that every student feels valued and included. We work hard to create an environment where all students, regardless of their background or identity, feel they belong. Whether through collaborative group projects, school wide celebrations, or simply listening and learning from one another, our goal is to promote an environment where respect, kindness, and understanding are the foundation of everything we do.

In our globalised world, the ability to speak more than one language is an invaluable skill. Many of our students are bilingual or multilingual, and their ability to navigate different languages is something we celebrate here at Lalor North Primary School.

As we move forward into the remainder of the school year, I encourage all members of our school community to continue celebrating our differences. Each of us brings something unique to the table, and it is through our diversity that we create a richer, more vibrant community. Let's continue to embrace the opportunity to learn from one another, to explore new perspectives, and to celebrate the beauty of who we are as individuals and as a school community. We thank you for all that you contribute to our amazing school community.



THE *beauty*  
OF THE  
WORLD  
LIES IN THE  
*diversity*  
OF IT'S PEOPLE



## Primary to Secondary School Transition

Moving from primary to secondary school is an important step in a child's education. In Victoria, students normally start secondary school in Year 7.

Recently we have been approached by many parents to provide advice about enrolling in secondary schools. There are many families currently thinking about their options and anxiously hoping they are accepted in their school of choice. Here are the basics:

In Victoria, there are 2 main types of schools:

1. Government (or 'public') schools, administered by the Department of Education
2. Non-government (or 'Independent') schools, which includes private schools and religious schools

Understanding the [different types of schools](#) can help you decide which school is right for you and your child. For children with disability or additional needs, this may be a mainstream government school or a specialist government school.

For information about home schooling, visit [home schooling](#).

The following information is for students that are seeking placement at a government secondary school. If you wish for your child to attend a non-government secondary school, please contact individual non-government secondary schools for their enrolment processes.

### **Right to enrol at your local school**

Your child has a right to enrol at their local school. This right is set out in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. Your child must be offered a place at your local school if they live within the school zone. For more information, visit [school zones](#).

You also have the choice to seek enrolment at a school that is not your local school. All students who seek enrolment in a school outside of their zone should be enrolled if there is sufficient accommodation at the school.

### **Find your local school**

You can find your local school and other government schools in your area at [Find my School](#). The Find my School website is the official and most up to date source of school zone maps in Victoria. All government primary, secondary and specialist schools are on Find my School. For more information, visit [school zones](#). **Visit schools**

It is important to go to school open days and tours at secondary schools to help you and your child with the move from primary to secondary school.

Visit school websites or contact schools directly to find out more about open days and booking tours.



## **Prep 2026 Enrolments**

We have had many tours and enquiries for enrolments for prep 2026. We are already beginning to have many submitted enrolments as early as March which indicates we are filling our places quickly. If you are planning of enrolling your child to attend Lalor North Primary School in 2026, please complete the enrolment forms and provide them to the office to secure your place.



Our 2025 Lalor North School Council will meet for the first meeting on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm.**

It is at this meeting the 2024 Annual Report is presented as well as office bearers elected.

### **The 2025 School Council Composition:**

- ✚ Elizabeth Bryan (Executive Officer)
- ✚ Kim Rotondi (Department of Education Representative)
- ✚ Dani Lupeski ((Department of Education Representative)
- ✚ Jess Pitt (Department of Education Representative)
  
- ✚ Maria Pejoski-Aleksovski (Parent Representative)
- ✚ Constantina Pilakis (Parent Representative)
- ✚ Stephanie Karevska (Parent Representation)
- ✚ Tina Theoharopoulos (Parent Representative)
- ✚ Beti Zarkadoulas (Parent Representative)
- ✚ Maria Bozinovski (Parent Representative)
- ✚ Ruz Spasevska (Parent Representative)
- ✚ Stamatia Rigas (Community Member)



## **Greek Independence Day**

Coming up soon on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March, is Greek Independence Day.

The 25<sup>th</sup> of March marks the beginning of the Greek Revolution for Independence from Ottoman rule after 400 years.

In honor of this special day our students will be involved in many learning opportunities and presenting at the local community on Monday in Lorne Street Lalor.

We look forward to sharing photos of the event with you in the next newsletter.



**Ζήτω η 25<sup>η</sup> Μαρτίου!**

## Tragedy in Kocani

Last night in the city of Melbourne, Federation Square lit up in red and yellow from dusk to dawn this morning in remembrance for the families who have experienced unimaginable loss.

The City of Melbourne showed profound respect to all victims of the tragic Kocani nightclub fire.

Here at Lalor North Primary school, our Macedonian Bilingual families and staff are deeply wounded by the news announced on Sunday which was followed by a national week of mourning.

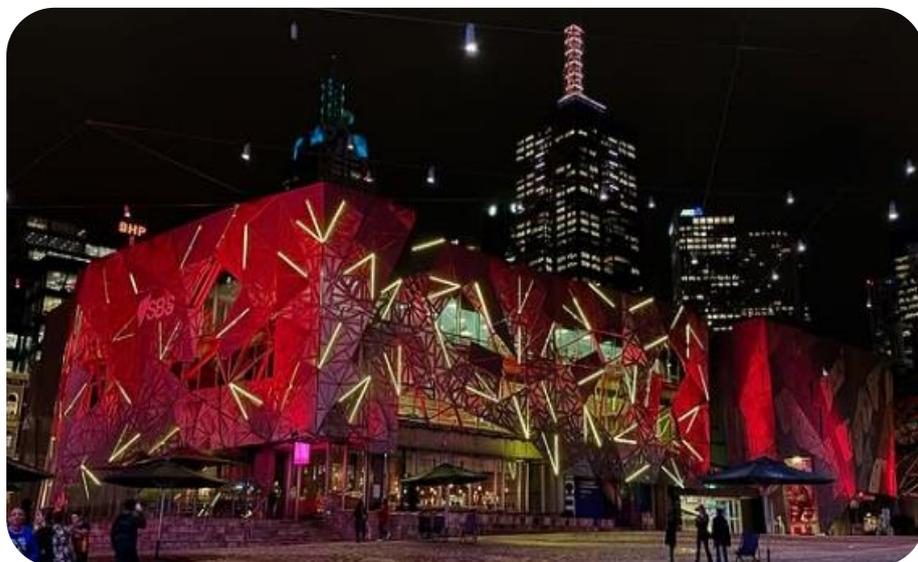
Our thoughts and prayers are with all Macedonians local and globally that have been impacted by this tragedy. We thank the City of Melbourne for tenderly embracing our community honouring the memories of many young lives lost.

## **NAPLAN**

We would like to congratulate all of our Year 3 and Year 5 students for demonstrating strong learner dispositions such as determination, resilience and perseverance during our NAPLAN assessments over the last two weeks. Throughout the NAPLAN preparation period we let our students know that these assessments are only one snapshot in time, and don't represent the depth of knowledge, understanding and skills that our students have in literacy and numeracy. We know that our students tried their very best during the assessments, and remained calm and focused throughout the testing period.

We would also like to thank our Year 3 and 5 teachers for supporting our young people by during the NAPLAN assessment platform and ensuring students felt at ease with the process.

We have been told that the NAPLAN results will be forwarded to schools sometime between mid-August and mid-September. We will communicate this information as soon as we know! A huge thank you also to Amanda Lee & Jae Dickinson for co-ordinating our NAPLAN testing, it's an enormous and time-consuming role and we are very grateful.





## Feedback, Complaints and Raising Concerns Advice for Families

Lalor North Primary School encourages parents, carers or members of the community to provide feedback to support us to make better decisions and be continuously improving our school for our students. As partners in your child's education, we value open communication that is respectful and mindful. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in maintaining a positive learning environment through all forms of communication.

If you wish to make a complaint or offer feedback here are the considerations;

- carefully consider the issues you would like to discuss.
- remember you may not have all the facts relating to the issues that you want to raise.
- think about how the matter could be resolved.
- be informed by checking the policies and guidelines set out by the Department and Lalor North Primary School website.

Working together through positive communication to solve problems together is the most productive way to resolve any concerns or complaints.



### Raising a concern

Raising a concern is different from making a complaint. Lalor North Primary School is always happy to discuss with parents/carers and community members any concerns that they may have. Concerns in the first instance should be directed to your child's teacher, Year Level Coordinators, Assistant Principal or Principal.

Where possible, school staff will work with you to ensure that your concerns are appropriately addressed. Remember...**Always see the classroom teacher first.**

*Elizabeth Bryan, Amanda Lee & Kim Rotondi*

# From the Office

## Some Useful Reminders.....

### Secondary School Placement

Families of Grade 6 students can expect to receive the "Year 6 to 7 Placement Information Pack for 2025-26" in the first week of Term 2.

The Department of Education has useful information for Parents and Carers on how to enrol and support their child moving from Primary to Secondary School at <https://www.vic.gov.au/moving-primary-secondary-school-information-parents-and-carers>

Another website that families may find useful in searching for secondary schools is <https://www.goodschools.com.au/>

### Swimming Program

The Lalor North Primary School swimming program begins in term 2 at the Thomastown Recreation and Aquatic Centre (TRAC), every Tuesday from the 29<sup>th</sup> April until Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Payment and consent are to be returned to the office by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

### Compass Passwords

Any family who is not able to access Compass, please contact our office for a new password. Being able to access Compass is vital as important updates or reminders are sent to families via this platform.

### Easter Raffle

Our Classroom Easter Raffles will be drawn on the final day of Term 1. As our hampers will be created from donations from families, we give a huge thank you to everyone who has sent in items to be included! We are continuing to accept items for the hampers up until Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March. All tickets sold and money raised will need to be returned to the office by Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Additional tickets are available from the office if required.



*Diana, Liz and Barbara*

**Premiers' Reading Challenge**



# CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

## Banksia 8

This week in our classroom we celebrated Cultural Diversity week.

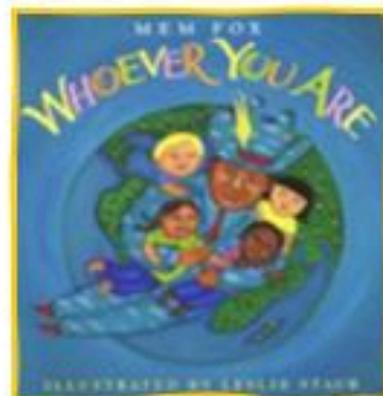
We discussed what the term culture is and how Australia is a culturally diverse country with people practising their different traditions and religions from around the world.

The importance of respecting your own and everyone else's cultural differences and the sense of belonging in our community was also looked at.

Students participated in many activities and got to know students in other classes and hear about a culture different to theirs. Wednesday was also Harmony Day where the students wore orange to symbolise peace and belonging.

A major highlight was also listening to the story 'Whoever You Are' by Mem Fox where students learnt that whoever you are or wherever you come from, our hearts and feelings are all the same.

The students certainly were engaged and enjoyed the whole week!





## Cultural Diversity Week Banksia 2



On Monday, we read the Greek book: *Όλοι μαζί ένας κόσμος* ("One World, Together"). The students, inspired by the story, created a colourful chain of paper children, each unique but all connected by friendship. The classroom was decorated with their artwork, celebrating diversity and the power of inclusion.



On Tuesday and Wednesday the students had many opportunities to share, discover and learn about the many cultures that fill the classrooms of LNPS.

Students participated in the Amazing Race, designed their unique fish that lives in harmony, wore orange, the colour of Unity and Respect, read books about inclusion and sang songs about belonging.



# Cultural Diversity Week



ЗДРАВО!

I liked it when we did the Amazing Race because we had to follow clues around the school and find the answers.

Adrian



This week in **Banksia 9**, we have been learning about the meaning of culture and cultural diversity.

We read books in English and Macedonian like 'Whoever you are' and 'Прославување на нашите разлики', talked about our similarities and differences, and made posters in Macedonian about our cultural heritage.

As part of our celebration of Cultural Diversity Week, we worked in mixed group activities with students from other classes. It was great to learn about their backgrounds and some greetings in their mother tongue. Then we took part in the multilingual Amazing Race.

We also listened to music from different countries and took part in some dances.

**Cultural Diversity Week was fun!**



Јас многу сакам  
кога ги цртавме  
нашите раце.

Христијан



Мене ми се допадна  
кога го правевме  
постерот за нашата  
култура.

Клои



I liked it when we worked in mixed classes and wrote the acrostic poems.

Amelia

Мене ми се допадна  
**Прекрасната трка** и кога ги  
цртавме рацете.

Ева





# Diversity Week

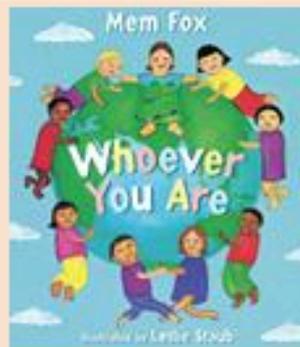
Wattle 8



Wattle 8 enjoyed Cultural Diversity week. We read lots of stories and shared all about the different countries that our families come from, and the languages we speak.



**Bani:** I have lots of brothers and sisters. My family is from India. I can speak Punjabi.



**Siah:** My family is Aboriginal. I like Australia.



**Ryan:** My family is from Vietnam and we speak Vietnamese. I can say Hello in Vietnamese 'Cha'o'

**Hafsa:** I come from Afghanistan. There is yummy food there like chocolate cake.

Where I Am From Vietnam  
Where are you from? Do you visit family members overseas?  
Do you speak any other languages at home?

Afghanistan

# Cultural Diversity Week

## Banksia 3

On Tuesday morning, Prep-2 Students across the school participated in mixed learning groups.

In Banksia 3, We met some new friends from different classes. Then we read a book about 'Belonging to My Culture' and talked about all the ways we are different. We discussed how everyone belongs to our school and its important to make people feel happy and welcome.



We listened to the song 'Better Together' and decorated our own fish. We worked collaboratively to make a poster for the class.

Everyone said they enjoyed participating in 'The Amazing Race' around the school!





# Attendance

Attendance plays a big part in a child's learning journey.

Research from The Kids Research Institute Australia indicates that every day a child is absent can negatively impact a child's learning journey and future achievements. Any days absent slowly add up and continue to grow, making it harder for students to catch up and achieve success.

 We know our little stars can shine! 

To support our students in their learning journey and create success let's work together to achieve the best attendance we can!





# SCHOOL FUN RUN

Hi Lalor North Primary School students and families!

We are holding a school fun run this year!

We are super excited to announce that we will be holding our event on the **3rd of April at 2pm.**

## What is the School Fun Run?

It is an online fundraising program, where all families go home and create their own online profile. You then choose your target prizes and work towards hitting your target! In your profile you will have a unique cyber safe link to share with your family and friends to donate to get you close to your target.

## What do you need you to do?

All we need you to do this week is create an online profile at [funrun.com.au](http://funrun.com.au).

This is an inclusive fundraiser we would love you to be apart of! If you would like to come down and watch your kids run, we would love to see you there!

Thank you for your collaboration and support,  
Lalor North Primary School





# Lalor North Primary School

Respect Honesty Unity Success Resilience

## Student Free Days for 2025



### Term 1

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Curriculum Day 1

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Curriculum Day 2

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Teacher Meetings 11-8pm (Pupil Free)

### Term 2

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Curriculum Day 3

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Report Writing Day

### Term 3

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August – Curriculum Day 4

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September – Parent Teacher Meetings 11-8pm (Pupil Free)

### Term 4

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Professional Practice Day

#### Please Note:

The Days were selected that would pose the least amount of disruption to the student teaching and learning focus. Consideration of spreading things out evenly across the school. Also maintaining our ability to report to parents each term of the year as follows:

- Term 1: Parent Teacher Student Meetings
- Term 2: Mid-Year Reports released
- Term 3: Parent Teacher Student meetings
- Term 4: End of Year Reports released

# 2025 Whole School Assembly Dates

## Term 1

**Week 9: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

## Term 2

**Week 2: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Week 8: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

## Term 3

**Week 2: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

**Week 8: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

## Term 4

**Week 1: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

**Week 5: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**Week 9: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December**



### **2025 LEARNING SHOWCASE TIMETABLE (AT FRIDAY WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES)**

Our Learning Showcases are opportunities for all classes and Specialists to share the amazing learning and achievements that is happening in our classrooms with our school community. Showcases (presentations) can involve your whole class, a small group of students, or individual students –it's entirely up to you! Two showcases per assembly.

Term 1	Week 7 Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>PE</b> (KEITH)	<b>B1, B2, B6</b> (MARIA K)
	Week 9 Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>B1, B6</b> (CONNIE/MARIA K)	<b>ART</b> (LORENA)
Term 2	Week 2 Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>WATTLE 4</b> (BRE)	<b>BANKSIA 6</b> LIZ G)
	Week 8 Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>WATTLE 8</b> (LINDA)	<b>ITALIAN</b> (TERESA)
Term 3	Week 2 Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	<b>WATTLE 3</b> (JESS)	<b>BANKSIA 8</b> (HELEN)
	Week 7 Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b>WATTLE 2</b> (DAPHNE)	<b>BANKSIA 3</b> (JOVANKA)
Term 4	Week 1 Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>BANKSIA 7</b> (SONJA/VESNA)	<b>WATTLE 5</b> (ELAINE)
	Week 5 Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>WATTLE 7</b> (OLIVIA)	<b>BANKSIA 4 &amp; 5</b> (LIZ K & MARIA V)
	Week 9 Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>BANKSIA 9</b> (HELEN/MIRJANA)	<b>STEAM</b> (JAE)

# RESPECT

## our school staff

❌  
"I need to speak to you  
right now."



Be the role model  
your child deserves.



Department  
of Education

## Student of the Week – 14<sup>th</sup> March

Room	Student	School Value	Reason for award
Wattle 2	Medina	Success	For learning to read and spell s, a, t, p, i, n and beginning to sound out words. Well done, Medina!
Wattle 3	Isabella S	Respect	For setting a good example in the classroom by being willing to help others and do the right thing. Well done, Isabella!
Wattle 4	Maryam A	Success	For demonstrating understanding of the strategy to identify equivalent fractions. Well done!
Wattle 5	Rayan S	Success	For following all instructions carefully in his writing to produce his very best work. Keep up the amazing work and effort in the classroom, Rayan!
Wattle 7	Husna A	Respect	Husna is always so kind, caring and generous, helping with class jobs and actively participating in lessons. Keep up the fantastic work Husna!
Wattle 8	Leila A	Respect	For always being a kind and respectful friend and helpful member of our grade. Great work Leila!
Banksia 1	Jacob A	Respect	For always being respectful and kind. He is an excellent role model for his classmates. Keep up the good work, Jacob!
Banksia 2	Harry C	Unity	For being a positive role model to his peers and supporting them to make good choices. Well done, Harry!
Banksia 3	Enni N	Success	For consistently working to the best of her ability and completing her work on time. Well done, Enni!
Banksia 4	Eva A	Resilience	For persisting with challenging maths tasks, putting 100% effort, resulting in her much better understanding of place value. Keep it up, Eva!
Banksia 5	David A	Resilience	For persisting with challenging maths tasks, putting 100% effort, resulting in his much better understanding of place value. Keep it up, David!
Banksia 6	Daniel Z	Respect	For setting an example in our classroom. He is always mindful of other people's feelings and respectful of others' opinions.
Banksia 7	Matej J	Resilience	For consistently completing all tasks in the classroom, building his confidence and showing a positive mindset towards the new challenges.
Banksia 8	Emilia B	Success	For being an enthusiastic and attentive learner who puts great effort into completing her tasks and enjoys challenges to help her enhance her learning.
Banksia 9	Alexander N	Success	For always having an enthusiastic attitude towards his learning, participating in discussions and engaging in all set tasks. Wonderful work Alexander!
PE	Inala G Wattle 7	Success	For her enthusiasm, and fantastic catching skills during PE lessons. Well done, Inala!
ART			
ITALIAN	Shuvam K Wattle 2	Success	For his enthusiasm and confidence when expressing how he is feeling in Italian. Bravo, Shuvam!
STEAM	Medina	Success	For learning to read and spell s, a, t, p, i, n and beginning to sound out words. Well done, Medina!

## Student of the Week – 21<sup>st</sup> March

Room	Student	School Value	Reason for award
Wattle 2	Valencia	Unity	For always looking out for others and being a kind and caring friend.
Wattle 3	Ritaj A	Unity	For always being a caring and helpful friend. You are always willing to guide others and be a positive role model. Well done, Ritaj!
Wattle 4			
Wattle 5	Samara P	Respect	For always being so kind, caring and considerate to everyone in the classroom. You are a great friend to everyone!
Wattle 7	Zoe R	Honesty	For showing honesty in all you do! You always tell the truth, take responsibility and treat others with fairness and respect. Keep up the great work!
Wattle 8	Ryan H	Unity	For always being a responsible, cooperative and helpful friend. <u>You are a great role model to others Ryan!</u>
Banksia 1	Alexia F	Success	For trying hard during Greek writing lessons to add detail to her writing. Well done, Alexia!
Banksia 2	Jamie S	Success	For always trying new and challenging tasks, sharing her ideas and celebrating others' achievements.
Banksia 3	Natalia M	Respect	For being a respectful class member. Natalia always listens carefully and tries her best. We also love the way you care for your classmates. Well done, Natalia!
Banksia 4	Petar N	Success	For putting 100% effort, completing all learning tasks to a high standard. Congratulations, Petar!
Banksia 5	Damian B	Success	For being a five star learner, always producing work of excellent standard. Keep it up, Damian!
Banksia 6	Leon R	Respect	For always displaying respect to his teachers and classmates both in and out of the classroom.
Banksia 7			
Banksia 8	Samoil N	Success	For his enthusiasm to learn the mathematical concepts taught in class, apply them to complete activities and challenge his understanding further.
Banksia 9	Leon A	Respect	For always being an excellent listener, remembering his manners and treating everyone with kindness and respect. Wonderful effort Leon!
PE			
ART	Katina Banksia 7	Success	For sketching with such precision, creating a very life-like drawing of a human face.
ITALIAN	Declan S Wattle 3	Success	For his great concentration and persistence when reading simple texts in Italian to complete a translation task. Bravo, Declan! Keep up your great work!
STEAM	Brajden J Banksia 4	Resilience	For persisting with the gate of his Lego chicken coop and improving the design to make it open and close effectively.

# Interschool Sports Results

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of March, we played against Lalor East Primary School

Sport	Results	Awards
<b>Cricket</b>	Lalor North PS defeated Lalor East PS 5 for 72 to 3 for 68	Star Performer – Matija Encouragement Award – Ahmed M
<b>Rounders (Boys)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated Lalor East PS 23 runs - 0 runs	Star Performer – Joshua S Encouragement Award – Mason P
<b>Rounders (Girls)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated Lalor East PS 14 runs to 4 runs	Star Performer – Lillian E Encouragement Award – Baran G
<b>Tennis (Boys)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated Lalor East PS 31 games to 9 games	Star Performer – Alexander J Encouragement Award – Leon
<b>Tennis (Girls)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated Lalor East PS 23 games to 20 games	Star Performers – Chrysoula & Tiahna Encouragement Award – Katina



# Interschool Sports Results

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of March, we played against St Clares Primary School



Sport	Results	Awards
<b>Cricket</b>	Lalor North PS defeated St Clares PS 1 for 84 and 5 for 67	Star Performer – Amen Encouragement Award – Mehardeep
<b>Rounders (Boys)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated St Clares PS 14 runs - 0 runs	Star Performer – Makary & Joshua Encouragement Award – Mason P
<b>Rounders (Girls)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated St Clares PS 9 runs to 4 runs	Star Performer – Alirrah Encouragement Award – Natalia
<b>Tennis (Boys)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated St Clares PS 30 games to 7 games	Star Performer – Lukas Encouragement Award – Mateo
<b>Tennis (Girls)</b>	Lalor North PS defeated St Clares PS 32 sets to 14 sets	Star Performer – Simona Encouragement Award – Emilia M

# FUN: A VITAL INGREDIENT FOR BUILDING YOUR CHILD'S VOCABULARY

Research has shown that children learn how to communicate best when engaging in enjoyable and longer interactions with their caregivers. **In childhood, learning goes hand-in-hand with play.**



Children are more likely to learn vocabulary that relates to their interests and curiosities. Having fun with your child has the potential to significantly improve your child's interactions and communication skills.

**After you discover what excites your child, here is how you can incorporate these interests into your interactions:**

- Let your child lead and be responsive to their initiations. Be sure to respond quickly and positively. For example: "Wow, that's a really fast car!"
- Your positive and quick responses can support your child in continuing with the interaction, allowing more communicative exchanges and vocabulary building!
- Researchers suggest avoiding toys, games, and electronic books with flashing lights, loud noises, or long pre-recorded songs, as they can make interactions more challenging. Instead, encourage imaginative play, such as dress-ups, outdoor play, and building activities like Lego, to support vocabulary development.
- Your child may have sensory preferences that make certain activities better choices for encouraging communication than others. By following your child's interests and preferences, you are providing a space for your child to develop language through what is fun for them. Some ideas could include playing with sand, slime, foam or play-dough.

Fun encourages an interaction to have more 'turns', or back-and-forth exchanges, which creates more opportunities for vocabulary learning. When you tune into your child's interests and curiosities, research shows that language learning will flourish.



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# Vaping fact sheet for parents and teachers



## Vaping causes serious health risks to young people

Since the mid-2010s, there has been a big rise in vaping among young people, including young people who have never smoked. In 2022–23, almost one-in-three Australian secondary school students had tried vaping. However, it's important to remember that most young people do not regularly vape.

Tobacco and vape companies are using social media to sell vapes to children and young adults. Young people see using vapes as normal and widespread among their peers.

### About vapes

Vapes are battery-operated electronic devices that heat a substance (e-liquid or juice) until it becomes an aerosol that users breathe in. The aerosol is a fine spray of chemicals that settle deep in the lungs. Some of these chemicals pass through the lungs into the bloodstream and travel around the body.

Vapes contain many different chemicals including solvents and flavourings – some are known to be toxic to the lungs and can damage the heart. Contaminants found in aerosol include agricultural chemicals (pesticides and herbicides) and toxic metals. When a vaping substance is heated, some chemicals can break down or react together to form new chemicals, including ones known to cause cancer.

Vaping substances may contain nicotine. Nicotine causes addiction in people who vape and in people who smoke tobacco. Vapes sold unlawfully may also contain other drugs such as THC, the psychoactive ingredient of cannabis.



A partnership between:



# Understanding phonics: a helpful guide for families, parents and carers

Reading is a foundational life skill and a source of pleasure and wonder.

It is one of the most important skills children learn and the teaching of **phonics** plays an important role in helping them become confident, fluent readers.

This guide will help you understand what phonics is, why it is important in learning to read, and how children can be supported at home to develop their awareness of sounds, and of the relationships between sounds and letters.

## What is phonics?

Phonics includes linking sounds (called 'phonemes') to their corresponding letters (called 'graphemes'). Students read words by recognising the relationships between written symbols and their corresponding sounds.

Phonics is one of 6 components that make up a comprehensive reading program.

### The other components are:

<b>Oral language</b>	Knowing and using spoken words to express knowledge, ideas and emotions
<b>Phonemic awareness</b>	The knowledge of sounds (phonemes)
<b>Vocabulary</b>	Understanding words in isolation and in context
<b>Fluency</b>	Reading accurately and at an appropriate rate with expression
<b>Comprehension</b>	Making meaning from text which includes developing knowledge of grammar

These are the foundational skills that have a reciprocal relationship and are all necessary to enable students to independently read and respond to increasingly complex fiction and non-fiction texts.

## Why is phonics instruction important?

Research and evidence show that phonics instruction is a highly effective way to teach children to read. It helps them develop **decoding skills** (translating printed words into speech), which assist in reading unfamiliar words. Phonics gives many children the tools to figure out new words and understand spelling patterns, building their reading fluency and comprehension.

## How is phonics taught in schools?

### The key elements of phonics are:

- 1. Phonemes:** the smallest units of sound in speech (e.g., the sound /k/ in 'cat').
- 2. Graphemes:** the letters, or groups of letters, that represent these sounds (e.g., the letter 'c' in 'cat').
- 3. Blending:** combining individual sounds together to read a word (e.g., /c/ /a/ /t/ = 'cat').
- 4. Segmenting:** breaking down words into their individual sounds to spell them (eg., chat = /ch/a/t).

Phonics is taught through a structured, sequential approach where children learn the simplest sounds (such as /s/, /a/, and /t/ and gradually move to more complex sound-letter patterns (such as /ee/, as in the sound in the word 'bee' and /oa/ as in the sound in the word 'cloak'. This is known as teaching **using a systematic, synthetic phonics** approach. In simple terms, children learn different sounds, then practice blending sounds together to read words.

The Academy is grateful to Parents Victoria for their expert advice in producing this guide



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	Item	Sizes Available	Price
	<b>Summer Dress</b> <i>Bottle green &amp; white</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16	\$29.00
	<b>Cotton Back Short Sleeve Polo</b> <i>Emerald with black panels, white piping and black collar with emerald and white stripes (embroidered logo)</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16 Adult sizes 14, 16, 18, 20	\$35.00 \$38.00
	<b>Rugby Knit Shorts - Unisex</b> <i>Black</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16	\$21.00
	<b>Microfibre Shorts - Unisex</b> <i>Black</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16 Sml - Med - Lge - XL	\$30.00 \$33.00
	<b>Cotton Back Long Sleeve Polo</b> <i>Emerald with black panels, white piping and black collar and cuffs with emerald and white stripes (embroidered logo)</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16 Adult sizes 14, 16, 18, 20	\$37.00 \$40.00
	<b>Hooded Top</b> <i>Black with green sleeves and green insert in hood with black bands with green and white stripes on bands (embroidered logo)</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16 Adult sizes 14, 16, 18, 20	\$48.00 \$51.00
	<b>Bomber Jacket</b> <i>Black with green sleeves and black bands with green and white stripes on bands (embroidered logo)</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16 Adult sizes 14, 16, 18, 20	\$52.00 \$55.00
	<b>Straight leg Track Pants</b> <i>Cotton/Polyester Black</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16	\$28.00
	<b>Fleecy Double knee trackpants with cuff</b> <i>Black</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16	\$25.00
	<b>Fleecy straight leg trackpants</b> <i>Black</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16	\$24.00
	<b>Waterproof Jacket Fleecy Lined</b> <i>Black</i>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16	\$52.00
	<b>Bucket Hat</b> <i>Black</i>	XSm 53cm Sm 55cm Med 57cm Lge 59cm XLg 61cm	\$12.00
	<b>School Bag</b> <i>Black</i>	One size	\$45.00
	<b>Warm Beanie</b> <i>Black</i>	One size fits all	\$12.00
	<b>Grade 6 Cotton Back S/Sleeve Polo Top</b> - Green/White/Black <b>Special Order Available only Oct/Nov</b>	4 6 8 10 12 14 16 Adult sizes 14, 16, 18, 20	\$52.00 \$56.00



## **Lalor North Primary School Uniform**

The purposes of the school uniform are to distinguish the school in public, build a school identity, help build an inclusive environment and to provide parents with cost effective and convenient clothing for school.

Lalor North Primary School has a compulsory school uniform. It must be worn at school, on excursions, at sporting activities and any other special occasions where students represent the school. It's important that every student feels comfortable and has a sense of belonging to our learning community while feeling pride about being a member of our school community each school day.

## **A PLUS SCHOOLWEAR**

### **Northern Regional Uniforms Shop**

**Address: Unit 3 /30 Heaths Court Mill Park**

**Contact: [03 9436 4005](tel:0394364005)**

**Email: [info@northernregionaluniforms.com.au](mailto:info@northernregionaluniforms.com.au)**

#### **Trading Hours:**

Monday: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Tuesday: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Wednesday: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Thursday: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Friday: 9.00am - 3.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am - 12.00pm

**Closed Sundays and Public Holidays.**

#### **For Online Orders**

**Website Details: [www.aplusschoolwear.com.au](http://www.aplusschoolwear.com.au)**

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

6 days or less  
absence per year  
**97% or above**

**VERY GOOD  
THIS IS YOUR  
TARGET**

Between  
7 and 19 days  
absence per year

**90% - 96%**  
**BELOW  
EXPECTATIONS**

More  
than 19 days  
absence per year  
**Under 90%**

**POOR  
ATTENDANCE**



FEEL FREE TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND LEAVE A GOOGLE REVIEW

Thank you to all of our students and families!



**LALOR NORTH  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

[LEAVE YOUR REVIEW HERE!](#)



# Autumn holidays

## Xtreme sports lab

Jump in for a day of non-stop action! Rotate through indoor soccer, badminton, and basketball, then refuel with lunch before diving into a high-energy dodgeball battle. Bring your crew, bring the vibes, and let's play! Come solo or with friends for an action packed session.

**Tuesday 8 April**  
11am-2pm

MEET

Smash X indoor sports centre  
143 O'Herns Road, Epping

COST FREE

Lunch provided.

[trybooking.com/CZQNA](https://trybooking.com/CZQNA)

AGES  
12-18

## Deadly creative arts

Get your creativity flowing, this creative arts session has something for everyone! Join the City of Whittlesea's Aboriginal Communities' Team, we'll explore traditional and modern First Nations art forms, from painting to weaving and storytelling. It's your chance to connect with culture, express yourself, and create something powerful with community.

**Wednesday 9 April**  
1pm-3pm

MEET

Laurimar community centre  
110 Hazel Glen Drive, Doreen

COST FREE

Afternoon tea provided.

[trybooking.com/CZQPM](https://trybooking.com/CZQPM)

AGES  
12-18

## Beyond the canvas

Art isn't just about what's on the page—it's about inspiration from the world around us! We'll take a guided nature walk to connect with the land, then return to create art inspired by our surroundings. Enjoy a afternoon tea and reflect on the journey before diving into creative expression with a deeper connection to the land and culture.

**Monday 14 April**  
1pm-3pm

MEET

Riverside community centre  
8 Doreen Rogan Way, South Morang

COST FREE

Afternoon tea provided.

[trybooking.com/CZQPG](https://trybooking.com/CZQPG)

AGES  
12-18

## Next level soccer

Calling all ballers! Whether you're here to learn new skills, show off your moves, or just have a kick, this session is for you. Get into fast-paced drills, friendly matches, and plenty of action—then refuel with lunch before wrapping up the day. All skill levels welcome! come solo or with friends.

**Tuesday 15 April**  
11am-1.30pm

MEET

Harvest Home community pavilion  
130W Harvest Home Road, Epping

COST FREE

Lunch provided.

[trybooking.com/CZQPV](https://trybooking.com/CZQPV)

AGES  
12-18

## Donny bloom

Join us for a fun-filled day with skateboarding and rollerblading, live music from local artists exciting basketball games and challenges, classic races: egg and spoon, sack race, and 3-legged race and giant outdoor games.

**Thursday 17 April**  
2pm-4.30pm

MEET

Gumnut Park and  
Adventure Playground  
995 Donnybrook Road, Donnybrook

COST FREE

[freezea](https://www.freezea.vic.gov.au) 

ALL  
AGES



To book or for more information scan the QR code or visit

[whittlesea.vic.gov.au/youthevents](https://whittlesea.vic.gov.au/youthevents)



# youth!

For more info call ☎ 9217 2170  
and ask for the youth team or email  
[youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au)