



Newcomb Newsletter

Term 3, Week 6, Friday 21st August 2026



IMPORTANT DATES

AUGUST

21st - Assembly 2.50pm
24th - 28th - Book Week & Book Fair (BER)
28th - Book Week Dress up Day! 9am parade
28th August - Publishing Party 12.30pm

SEPTEMBER

4th - Superman Stall (P&F)
4th - P&F Meeting 2.15pm
10th - 100s Club!
11th - Footy Colours Day!
14th - 18th - Swimming Program
18th - Early Finish 2.15pm

OCTOBER

5th - Start of Term 4
16th Assembly 2.50pm
21st - Geelong Cup Holiday
23rd October - Grandparents Morning Tea
30th - JSC Halloween Dress Up day!

NOVEMBER

9th - 13th - SSG Meetings this week
20th - Curriculum Day
27th - P&F Meeting 2.15pm
27th - Assembly 2.50pm



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and productive fortnight at Newcomb Primary School, with plenty happening both in our classrooms and across our wider school community.

This week we have also been holding our Student Support Group (SSG) meetings. These meetings are an important opportunity for families, teachers, Education Support staff and other professionals to come together to discuss student progress, celebrate achievements and establish goals and supports for the months ahead. Thank you to the many parents and carers who have taken the time to participate. Strong partnerships between home and school make an enormous difference to the support we can provide our students.

We are very excited to share that we have now accepted all of our 2027 Prep enrolments and are looking forward to welcoming our newest students and families to the Newcomb Primary School community. Our Prep transition program will begin in early October, giving our 2027 Preps plenty of opportunities to become familiar with our school, meet staff and other students, and begin building their confidence ahead of their first day of school next year. We can't wait to welcome them!

Our teachers have also been working incredibly hard during our Professional Learning meetings over the past five weeks, with a strong focus on activating prior knowledge in mathematics. This work forms part of our Annual Implementation Plan goal to improve student learning outcomes by strengthening our whole-school instructional models and ensuring consistent, evidence-based teaching practice. Teachers have been reflecting on their current practice, researching effective approaches, developing a shared understanding and participating in peer observations. A special thank you goes to our PLC leaders, Jess Fatone and Sherridan Woolard, who have expertly led our staff through this work. Their leadership has supported our teachers to think deeply about how we connect new mathematical learning with what students already know, helping students make stronger connections and develop deeper mathematical understanding.

Thank you, as always, to our families for your continued support of our students, staff and school. We are incredibly proud of the learning and growth happening across the school.

Blanche Denmead & Carmen Britnell

IMPORTANT INFORMATION & UPDATES

PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Carer Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey will be sent to a randomly selected group of parents and is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies. The Parent / Carer Opinion Survey will be open online from Monday 17th August to Friday 18th September 2026.

MORNING ROUTINES

We recently shared on Compass some important reminders about our morning routines. All students enter their classrooms at 8.50am. Our teachers and ES are there to welcome them and assist them as they unpack and settle into the classroom. As our teachers are starting instruction at 8.50am we encourage parents to book a time after school with teachers if you are wanting to share any information or discuss your child's progress. Teachers have staff meetings on a Tuesday afternoon so any other night in the week is preferable.

If your child is late (after 8.50am) please ensure you walk your child to the office on the way in to sign them in. This ensures that they are accounted for in the morning roll. Students can then walk to class independently to start their day. If they are needing support the office can call an ES to come and collect them.

If you are dropping anything off to your child during the school day (ie. lunch) please ensure you also deliver this to the office. This ensures we are meeting our child safe standards and OH&S standards of knowing who is on site at any time during the school day. If you have any queries around the morning routine please feel free to get in touch with me or your classroom teacher. Thanks for your support in making our mornings a successful start to the school day!

AEU INDUSTRIAL ACTION

Many families will have heard about the recent developments regarding the new Victorian Government Schools Agreement and the pay and conditions offer for teachers, principals and education support staff.

Following a lengthy period of negotiations and industrial action, it is pleasing to see significant progress towards a new agreement. We are very grateful to our school community for the patience and understanding shown throughout the period of industrial action. Most importantly, we would also like to acknowledge our wonderful staff, who have continued to keep our students and their learning at the centre of everything they do.

HATS AT SCHOOL

School hats are to be worn during all outside activities, by all students and staff from the 1st of September. We encourage families to start searching for school hats in preparation for the spring/summer season ahead. Hats are also available from the school office for \$20.

Junior School Council 2026

Our Junior School Council do an exceptional job of organising our termly events. Later this term we will have our sport/footy colours dress up day. Due to our swimming program this will happen a little earlier than usual, on Friday 11th of September. Our Parents and Friends will support the day by organising a sausage sizzle lunch so please keep your eyes out for further information regarding this day.

Parents & Friends 2026

The Parents and Friends group will be meeting on the 4th of **September at 2.15pm**. Please get in contact with Calista Davis if you would like to get involved with the Parents and Friends Group. Through their regular meetings this group talk about any feedback/suggestions from parents about both day to day school activities and also our annual school events.

In Term 4 we are going to be holding a twilight Christmas market which will include our students performing their Christmas songs. We are going to be needing lots of helpers to bring this to life so if you are interested please get in contact.

NPS School Council 2026

Our School Council plays a vital role in our school. If you have any ideas, suggestions or feedback about our school please feel free to contact any member of school council or email our School Council President at pinkpawprincess@hotmail.com.

Our school council representatives for 2026 are:

- Natalie Edwards (President)
- Penny Winbolt (Vice President)
- Sherridan Woolard (Secretary)
- Morgan Foster (Treasurer)
- Morgan Foster (Community Representative)
- Allison Fogarty (Parent Representative)
- Lyn Wilcock (Parent Representative)
- Glenda Human (Parent Representative)
- Calista Davis (Parent Representative)
- Rachel Smith (Parent Representative)
- Donna Parsons (DET Representative)
- Michelle Stewart (DET Representative)
- Carmen Britnell (Principal)

The remaining school council meeting dates for 2026 are:

Term 3 - Tuesday 1st September Term 4 - Tuesday 20th October & Tuesday 1st December



NPS

SunshineCircles Playgroup

**AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED - HOSTED BY HAYLEY DAVIS
KIRRALEE KINDER ATTENDEES & NPS SIBLINGS INVITED**

Upcoming sessions:

Monday 24th August

This week we will have an animal theme. Explore our dinosaurs, ocean animals and farm animals in a range of play activities.

Monday 31st August

This week we have 5 senses theme. We will be tasting sweet and sour foods (free afternoon tea provided), listening to and using musical instruments and using scented playdough!

Monday 7th September

This week we encourage you all to bring a teddy bear from home for our very own teddy bears picnic! We will have music, teddy bear crafts and some teddy bear biscuits to munch on!



Term 3

Monday- 2:15pm-3pm



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Newcomb Primary School



Richard Street, Newcomb

What's been happening in Prep MD?

Term Overview

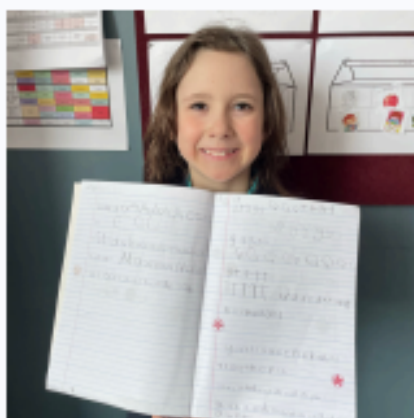
We've had an exciting start to Term 3 in Prep MD. We've had lots of exciting events such as our 100 days of Prep and dress up day as "what we want to be when we grow up." We've been working addition & subtraction, improving our letter and sound knowledge and building our working stamina.

100 Days Of Prep



We celebrated the amazing achievement of completing 100 days of Prep and dressed up like we were 100 years old! (Which is even older than Mr N!)

Literacy



We've been working really hard on writing our letters on the lines correctly, making words with our letter tiles and learning our letter sounds.

Maths

In Maths we've been solving addition & subtraction sums to 10 with counters and making our own sums with dice.



Play & Learn

One of the most important parts of being in Prep is being able to work well with others, take turns and share. We have been working on this during our Developmental Play sessions: building Lego, playing with Play Doh and colouring with friends.

What's been happening in IPO?

Term overview:

We've had a fantastic start to Term 3 diving deep into learning! We have been practising our morning routines regularly which has helped us be ready to learn every morning, setting us up for success. Last Friday we had our 'What I want to be when I grow up' dress up day to raise money for Story Dogs.



Reading ladies



Every Thursday, we have the Reading Ladies come into our classroom and do some reading practise with us. We are very appreciative of them helping us with our reading and giving up their own time to do so! It is definitely a highlight of our week!



Mindfulness

IPO has been learning about mindfulness and how to ensure our mind is healthy. We have been learning about balance and how to prioritise our own feelings to ensure we are happy.



NAIDOC Week

NPS celebrated NAIDOC Week at the beginning of this term. We took a closer look at what NAIDOC Week celebrates and took inspiration from a few famous First Nations Artists.



3/4 CAMP - COTTAGE BY THE SEA



LEARNING AT NEWCOMB

Reading and Writing

What are we learning this week?

In our English lessons this week students are reading and listening to some wonderful picture fiction books and novels from our school reading spine. Our explicit writing lessons are also related to these books

Prep - Wombat Stew

Learning to expand simple sentences using an adjective

One/Two - Jetty Jumping

Learning to combine sentence using conjunctions.

Two - The Snail and a Whale

Learning to expand sentences using who/what, where, when, how and why.

Three - Charlotte's Web

Learning about sentences, fragments and to write a concluding paragraph.

Four - Storm Boy

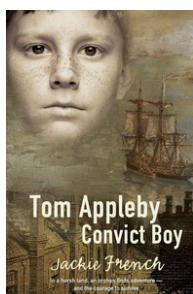
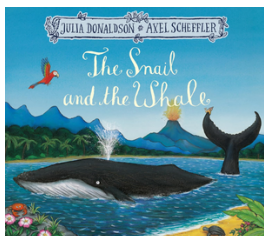
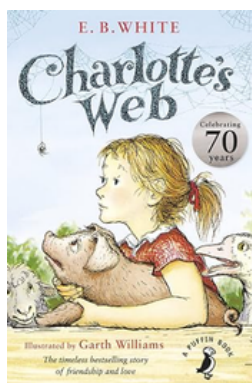
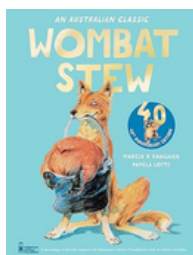
Learning to write a single paragraph outline to summarise the text.

Five - Tom Appleby Convict Boy

Learning to plan a body paragraph for an information report.

Six - Once

Learning to plan and write a body paragraph for an information report.



GEM Chat



WHAT KIND ACTS HAVE YOU SEEN TODAY?

Professional Learning

Activating Prior Knowledge:

Connecting to What Students already Know

For the last 5 weeks we have completed a teaching sprint during our professional learning meetings.

This has been expertly led by our middle leaders Jess Fatone and Sherridan Woolard.

We have focussed on Goal 1 in our school's Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)

'Improve student learning outcomes.'

The key improvement strategy from this is, **'To strengthen whole school instructional models across all curriculum areas to ensure consistent, evidence based best practice.'**

Our focus has been explicit teaching in maths and in particular 'activating prior knowledge' (APK). Teachers have reflected on their current planning and practice, researched best practice, developed a shared understanding and participated in peer observations.

Please have a chat with your children about their math lessons.

What have they been learning the last few weeks?

What prior knowledge was needed?

Thanks, and have a great weekend!

Robyn Evans

Assistant Principal

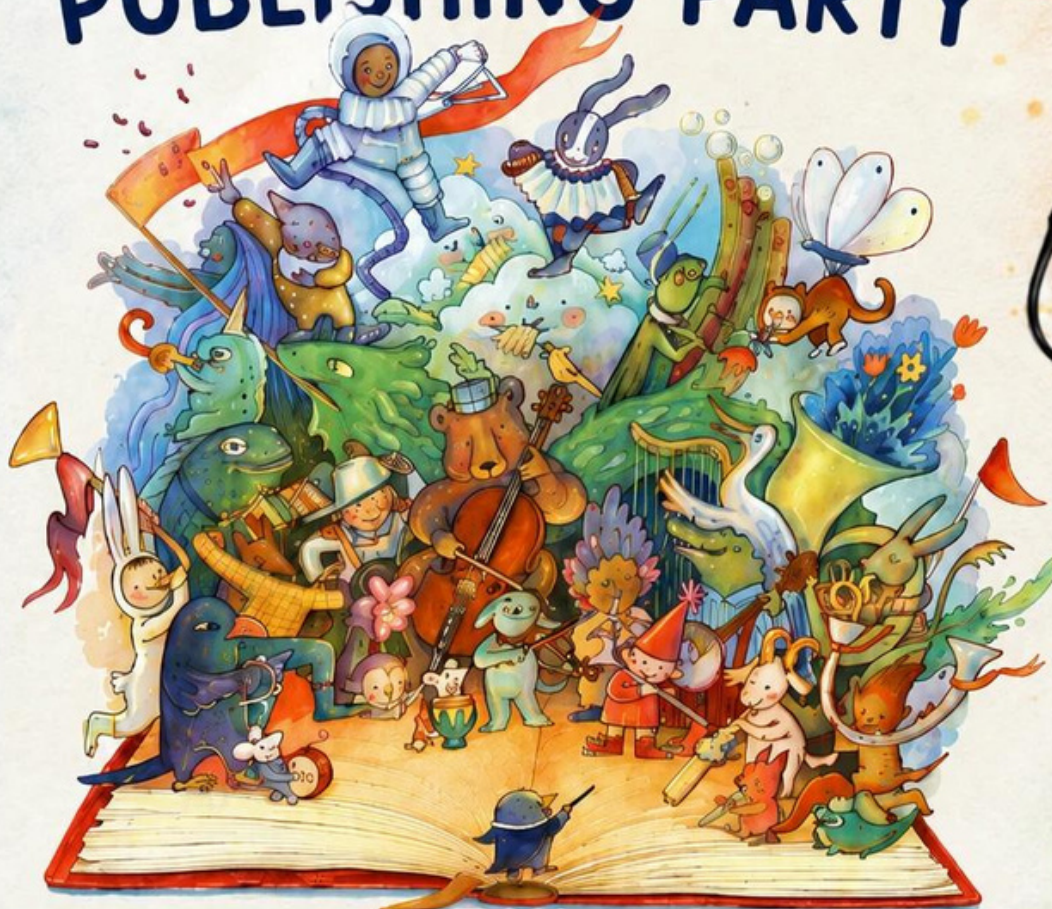






2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

NEWCOMB PS BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY & PUBLISHING PARTY



Friday 28th August 2026



PUBLISHING PARTY

12.30pm – Sharing stories

1.00pm – Lunch

in the BER building

Come and see the incredible work of our young authors! The students will be sharing the stories they have created as part of their literacy program.

BOOK FAIR

All week in the
BER building

Come and explore
a wonderful range
of books!

DRESS UP DAY!

Dress up as your
favourite book
character and
bring stories to life!

Families are asked to bring along
a plate of food to share for lunch.



BOOK FAIR *is Coming!*

☆ **SAVE THE DATE!** ☆



**TUESDAY 25 AUGUST
TO FRIDAY 28 AUGUST**



BER BUILDING



**BEFORE &
AFTER SCHOOL**



**EXPLORE FANTASTIC
BOOKS FOR EVERY AGE!**



LET'S CELEBRATE THE JOY OF READING TOGETHER!

**OUR SUPERMAN STALL IS PROUDLY ORGANISED BY OUR
BRILLIANT PARENTS & FRIENDS GROUP**

NEWCOMB PS SUPERMAN STALL

FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO BUY A GIFT FOR A
SPECIAL PERSON IN THEIR LIFE! THIS
COULD BE FOR DAD, GRANDPA,
UNCLE, MUM OR A FRIEND

STUDENTS WILL NEED TO BRING UP TO
\$10 AND A PLASTIC/PAPER BAG



NEWCOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL



SWIMMING LESSONS 2026



14 SEPT TO 18 SEPT 2026

10.30am-11.00AM ~ Prep and 1PO

11.00AM-11:30AM - 1/2JF/2MG/3CV

11.30AM - 12.00PM - 4TB/5CM/6SW

SPLASHDOWN

- PLEASE WEAR YOUR BATHERS UNDER SCHOOL UNIFORM
- BRING A TOWEL, UNDERWEAR, GOGGLES AND A PLASTIC BAG FOR WET BATHERS/TOWEL
- CHILDREN MAY WEAR THONGS TO THE POOL
- PARENTS/CARERS ARE WELCOME

Our School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPBS) focus over the next few weeks is

Responsibility - We stop playing when the music starts.

When students hear the music, they are encouraged to:

🎵 Stop playing and pack away.

🚶 Walk straight back to class.

👂 Listen to their teacher for the next instruction.

📚 Get ready to begin their next learning activity.

★ Show safe, respectful and responsible behaviour during the transition.

This routine helps students return to class calmly and promptly, maximising learning time and making transitions smoother for everyone.



WELLBEING AT NEWCOMB

KYLIE SCANDOLERA - MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING LEADER

♥ The Resilience Project – Emotional Literacy

Our students have been exploring emotional literacy through The Resilience Project. We have been learning that all emotions are important and that feelings are our body's way of communicating with us. Students have been encouraged to recognise and talk about their feelings, understand that it is normal to experience a range of emotions, and identify trusted adults they can turn to when they have worries or concerns. We encourage families to continue these conversations at home by talking about feelings around the dinner table and completing the Handprint Worries activity together. This is a wonderful opportunity to help children build confidence in expressing their emotions and knowing who they can reach out to when they need support.

THE
RESILIENCE
PROJECT

TAKE IT HOME ACTIVITY

EMOTIONAL LITERACY | LESSON #1



Hi Families,

This week in our Emotional Literacy lesson, we discussed the emotions we are currently feeling at the beginning of the new school year. We discussed how change is a part of life and it is normal to experience various emotions. We then all contributed a page to a class book to explore how emotions are not good or bad, but rather our body's way of communicating with us how we feel about something.

Working on our emotional literacy skills provides us with opportunities to enhance our understanding and expression of various emotions. As we improve our emotional literacy skills, we can better recognise our own feelings and enhance our ability to manage them. This equips us to navigate diverse experiences, including handling conflicts, forming friendships, coping with challenging circumstances, and maintaining resilience when faced with change.

TRY IT AT HOME FAMILY ACTIVITY: HANDPRINT WORRIES

YOU WILL NEED:

- Time together as a family.
- Plain paper to trace your own hand.
- Textas and pencils.

WHAT TO DO:

- As a family, talk about the fact that sometimes we have worries and it is important to talk to someone about.
- Discuss some trusted adults who family members could talk to about their worries (this could be other family members, family friends or teachers).
- Each family member is to trace around their hand on a blank piece of paper.
- On each finger, write down a person who you trust to speak to if you have worries.
- Each family member should have identified five people they can talk to if they have any worries.

Family Emotional Literacy habit builder:

Around the dinner table, ask everyone to share a feeling they felt during that day. Discuss how they dealt with that feeling and then share strategies you could use when faced with particular feelings.

We would love to see what you are doing at home. Please share some photos or let your child's teacher know what you have enjoyed.



For more activities to complete as a family, check out theresilienceproject.com.au/at-home

Donations needed

Help fill our school donation bin



- Look for the donation bin at school **from Monday** — every item goes to **Our Village**, supporting local families and children in need.

Can donate

- Baby and kids' clothes
- Baby shoes up to youth size 7
- Household cots meeting strict safety standards
- Clean cot and bassinet mattresses, no stains or damage
- Good-quality toys
- Puzzles
- Children's books
- Activity mats
- Baby gyms
- Bouncers
- High chairs
- Portable cots

Can not donate

- ✗ Adult clothes
- ✗ Bath stands or seats
- ✗ Battery operated toys
- ✗ Booster seats
- ✗ Breastfeeding or pregnancy pillows
- ✗ Electrical items
- ✗ Formula
- ✗ Household furniture
- ✗ Playpens
- ✗ Portacots
- ✗ Soft bedding: pillows, quilts, duvets, bumpers
- ✗ White goods

Thank you for supporting our village community



Contact: Program Coordinator: Ava
Phone: 0448 058 160
Email: newcomb@kellyclub.com.au
Website: kellyclub.com./newcomb

KELLY CLUB NEWCOMB UPDATE

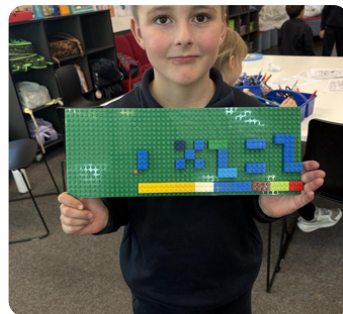
A fun-filled Term 3...

Can you believe we're already at Week 7 of Term 3? The term is flying by, and we've had a super creative couple of weeks here at Kelly Club Newcomb!

The children have been busy creating DIY CD suncatchers, making more and more amazing clay creations, and even designing their own jewellery and earrings for their mums. We've also made colourful animal masks, created paper versions of ourselves, built all sorts of creations using magnetic cubes, and even used LEGO to make maths equations!

When we haven't been busy creating, we've been making the most of our time outside. We've played plenty of group games, with Markers Up and Gaga quickly becoming two of our favourites. There's always lots of laughter, teamwork and friendly competition!

It's been so lovely seeing the children come up with their own ideas and get creative with the resources around them. We can't wait to see what they come up with next as we head towards the final few weeks of Term 3! 🌟



Friendly Reminder

A friendly reminder to all families to please remember to book your children in before attending Kelly Club for before and after school care. This helps us keep track of numbers and ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience. We can't wait to see all your smiling faces soon!



NEWCOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWCOMB@KELLYCLUB.COM.AU
0448 058 160 | 1300 535 590



BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

7:00AM - 8:30AM

\$2.30

***AFTER 90% CCS OR
\$22.97 FULL FEE**

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

3:15PM - 6:00PM

\$3.03

***AFTER 90% CCS OR
\$30.28 FULL FEE**

**CCS
PROGRAM
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

**Conditions apply*

**ENROL NOW AND JOIN THE
KELLY CLUB FUN!
SCAN HERE**



MELI

FREE 3 and 4-year-old
kindergarten places at

St Albans Park Kindergarten

2027 applications now open!



SCAN HERE





READY TO LAUNCH

Early Years

Helping families build strong foundations for learning and life

Whether your child is preparing to start school, learning at home, or already finding their feet in the early years, this FREE workshop is designed to help your family feel ready for the journey ahead. **For parents and carers of children aged 3-7 years.**

Together We'll Explore

- Supporting your child to grow into themselves
- Boundaries, routines and what works
- Connection, conversations and role modelling
- Your child's developing emotional skills
- Healthy tech habits for the family

You'll Leave With

- ✓ **Greater confidence** in supporting your child's early learning
- ✓ **Practical strategies** you can use every day
- ✓ **Stronger connections** with your child's learning community
- ✓ **Local supports** when you need them

About BATForce

Our workshops are built on more than 14 years of listening to students, families, teachers and school communities across our transition work. Practical and evidence-informed, they continue to evolve in response to the needs of the communities we work with.



About Your Presenter

Leigh Bartlett has more than 35 years' experience working alongside young people, families and schools. She is known for delivering practical, engaging workshops that combine professional knowledge with real-world experience.

Choose the Session that suits you

Attend in person at one of three locations, or join us online from anywhere.

**Scan to
Register**

Moolap

Wed 2 Sept 10.00-11.30am

Ocean Grove

Thur 3 Sept 6.30-8.00pm

Portarlington

Thur 15 Oct 6.30-8.00pm

Online

Wed 28 Oct 7.00-8.15pm



**Book
Your
Place:**

trybooking.com/DNYZP