



# Newcomb Newsletter

Term 3, Week 8, Friday 12th September



## IMPORTANT DATES

### SEPTEMBER

8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> - Smile Squad (Dental)  
8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> - Prep Fire Safety Program  
19<sup>th</sup> - End of Term Early finish 2.15pm

### OCTOBER

6<sup>th</sup> - Curriculum Day  
9<sup>th</sup> - Prep 2026 #1 Transition Session 9-10am  
13<sup>th</sup> - Yr 6 Passport to Success Program starts  
21<sup>st</sup> - School Council Meeting 4.45pm  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Prep 2026 #2 Transition Session 9-10am  
28<sup>th</sup> - Prep 2026 #3 Transition Session 9-10am

### NOVEMBER

6<sup>th</sup> - Prep 2026 #4 Transition Session 9-10am  
13<sup>th</sup> - Prep 2026 #5 Transition Session 9-10am & Prep Parent Information Session  
21<sup>st</sup> - Curriculum Day (Professional Practice)

### DECEMBER

2nd - School Council Meeting 4.45pm  
9<sup>th</sup> - Whole School Transition Day 9-12.30



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are almost at the end of term 3, what a whirlwind! We would like to welcome Grace who has joined us in year 4. We would also like to thank Olivia Ortiz who has been teaching in 3/4G this term, thankyou Liv for all that you do at NPS!

Last week Carmen, Blanche, Rob and Lisa all spent two days in Ballarat completing our SPPIKE (Strengthening Professional Partnerships in Koorie Education) program. This was an incredible learning experience for us as leaders and has helped us to plan our work in school to build our focus on indigenous culture and increase our inclusion of all cultures across the school. We are grateful to those students and parents/carers who provided us with some feedback as part of our work in this program.

Last week our parents and friends group did an incredible job of coordinating our Superman stall. Thanks again to this brilliant group. We hope everyone enjoyed their day with special people in their lives on Sunday.

As we come to the end of the term we want to remind you that the first day back of next term is a curriculum day. Staff will be involved in professional learning with a focus on Maths and our Core Knowledge units. Please ensure you have care organised for your children on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of October.

Over the holidays we will have a lot of construction happening around the school. We encourage the school community to stay away from the school grounds as there will be many workers, machinery etc. on site. We look forward to the works being completed for the start of term 4.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend. Please come and see us anytime!

Blanche Denmead & Carmen Britnell - Principal Team

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION & UPDATES

## PARENT OPINION SURVEY

The Department of Education Parent Opinion Survey is now open. The eldest student in each family will have come home with a letter that outlines how to log into the survey to share your thoughts on how the school is supporting you and your child.

We encourage all families to complete the survey as this helps us to both celebrate our successes and identify areas of need moving forward. If you need assistance with the process please contact the school office.

The survey closes on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September!

## MODELLING MANNERS

Have you noticed how you feel when someone smiles and uses their manners? Good, right? Good manners don't come naturally and must be taught. Raising children in households that patiently and diligently model and insist upon good manners is required for these to become life-long habits. When adults model such behaviours in the home, school and wider community, our children reflect the same positivity and optimism in their lives.

We encourage all members of our community to consider how they might model and encourage our students to adopt good manners. It is as simple as – good morning, smiles, saying hello, holding a door open, thank you, please – and, the impact it can have on the tone and respect within the home/school community can't be understated. We thank our families for helping to instil kind, respectful habits in our students and community.

## SUNSMART REMINDER FOR TERM 4

Next term, students will be required to wear hats when playing outside. Hats are now available to purchase direct from the office for \$20. Based on feedback from our recent student uniform survey, we have recently changed provider for our hats and our wide-brim hats are available in the more comfortable style. Please pop into the office if your child needs a new hat for Term 4.

## MOBILE PHONES AND SMART WATCHES

The Department of Education have very strict guidelines around the use of mobile devices (mobile phones, iPads, smart watches) used during school time. Newcomb Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school.

At Newcomb Primary School:

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours e.g admin office, teacher office.
- Students who bring other mobile devices such as smart watches must not use the device as a communication tool during school hours and must have them securely stored during school hours
- Exceptions to this policy may be applied if certain conditions are met ([see policy for more information](#))
- When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL 2025

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 2025 are: Natalie Edwards (President), Calista Davis (Vice President), Amanda Wright (Secretary), Allison Fogarty (Treasurer), Morgan Foster (Community Representative), Meagan Morris (Parent Representative), Lyn Wilcock (Parent Representative), Penny Winbolt (Parent Representative), Rachel Smith (Parent Representative), Donna Parsons (DET Representative), Michelle Stewart (DET Representative)

The school council meetings for term 4 are on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of October and 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

## SOCIAL MEDIA USE

In recent years, more and more research is becoming available regarding the negative impact of social media on young people. As a result, changes are being made to limit access of children under 16 to certain social media apps. At NPS we support the changes to social media access and encourage parents/carers to reduce the amount of exposure our students have to social media platforms.

At NPS, we are also committed to the 11 Child Safe Standards and ensuring our students remain safe at school.

**One of these is Standard 9: Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.**

At NPS we use devices for online learning programs, ensuring students are closely supervised, purposeful and time-limited. For example, Times Table Rock Stars, Numbots.

We have included information below to support parents and carers in maintaining a safe online environment at home. Further information can also be found via the [eSafety Commissioner website](#).

**If your child is under 12 years old, please do not allow them to sign up for social media.  
The minimum age for social media use is between 13 to 16 years old.**

Many social media channels promote harmful messages, conveying unrealistic expectations of what someone should look like, or achieve. Let's support our children to control what they consume, for example, using a device for a positive purpose linked to learning, or an inspirational video which has already been watched and checked over by an adult before the child has accessed it.

Studies show adolescents that spend more than 2 hours a day on social media are twice as likely to feel socially isolated compared to those who spend less than 30 minutes a day on social media. Another study found that adolescents who spend 3 or more hours per day on social media are more likely to report high levels of depressive symptoms compared to those who use social media for less than 1 hour per day. 45% of respondents reported feeling anxious due to the perception of others' lives on social media.

Multiple studies have strongly linked social media use with an increased risk for depression, anxiety, loneliness, self harm and even suicidal thoughts. Devices literally rewire our brains, and put us in a reward-seeking behaviour mode. Device use is not always bad, but it should be deliberate, planned, positive, supervised, highly regulated and limited.

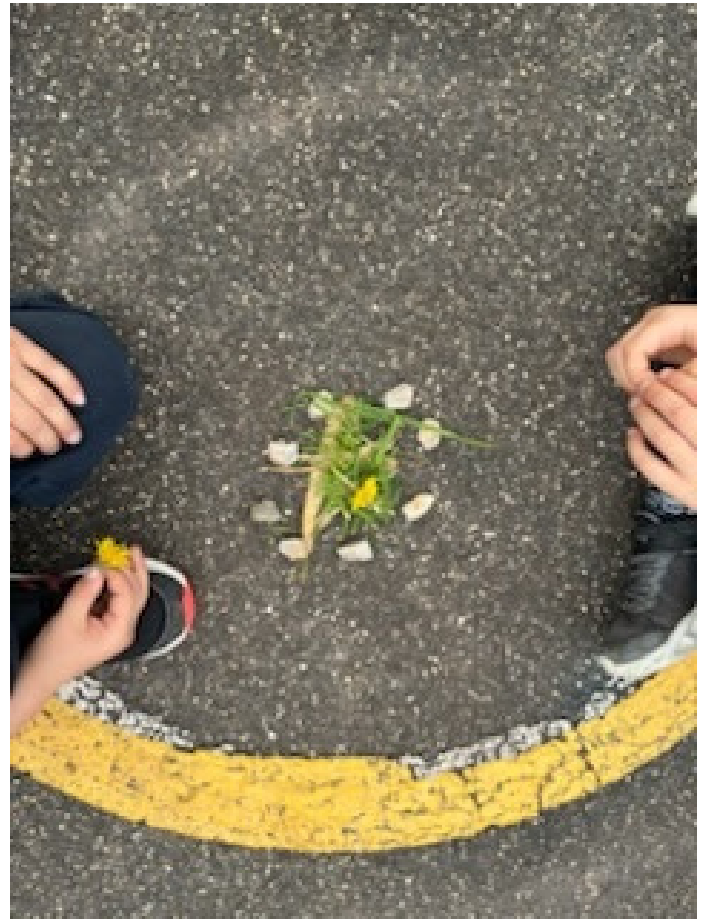
### **NPS recommends:**

- Don't allow social media accounts for your children - legally, they are too young, and that age limit is there for a reason. There are strong links between negative behaviour, low mood and self-esteem, and a feeling of loneliness, and social media use.
- The internet connection is paid by you, so you choose how the internet works within your household, including disallowing social media.
- Lock away your child's device at night. Don't allow your child to have a device in their bedroom. If a child is heavily dependent on device use, it is likely that you will need to lock it away to stop your child getting up in the night and looking for it. Many of our parents physically lock phones and iPads away at night as a physical boundary and to protect their child from harm. We think it's a great strategy.
- This will likely require you to dig deep initially - your child will probably scream and cry for the device. This is normal - they will be angry with the change and will try their best to get it back. Stand strong and set the boundary. Your child will quickly learn your new routines and boundaries, and they will be better off as a result.



# Nature Links

Some snapshots of this week's Nature Links program with Lucy. She does a wonderful job of helping our students engage with the environment around them!







# MULTI SPORTS

Newcomb P.S.  
Term 4 2025



## PROGRAM INFORMATION

This weekly programme gives children sport-specific skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them confidence to join sports clubs and teams in the future.

## AGE GROUPS

Prep to Grade 4

## SESSION DETAILS

### MULTI SPORTS

**COST: \$160+GST 10 WEEKS**  
**DAY: FRIDAY'S**  
**TIME: 3:30PM – 4:30PM**

**START DATE: 10TH OCTOBER**  
**END DATE: 12TH DECEMBER**  
**SPORTS: CRICKET, AFL, BASKETBALL & SOCCER**

- **LEARN NEW SPORTS SKILLS**
- **UNDERSTAND SPORT-SPECIFIC RULES**
- **GAME BASED ACTIVITIES**
- **BUILD CONFIDENCE TO JOIN COMMUNITY SPORTING CLUBS**

**\*Families are welcome to enrol at any stage of the program & pay for the weeks remaining.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT:**  
[WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU](http://WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU)



Nick Clydesdale - Zone Manager

 [Geelong@kellysports.com.au](mailto:Geelong@kellysports.com.au)

 0497 770 909

 [www.kellysports.com.au/Geelong](http://www.kellysports.com.au/Geelong)



**GET 40% OFF SELECTED NEW BALANCE PRODUCTS, JUST FOR BOOKING WITH KELLY SPORTS IN TERM 4**



Melie



NPS

We would like to  
invite all younger  
siblings of NPS  
students

# Sunshine Circles



## What is Sunshine Circles?

Sunshine Circles® group gives you the opportunity to support your child to practice self-regulation skills and to feel encouraged to have a go at achievable challenges. Facilitators will lead playful, cooperative, and nurturing activities to create a fun, caring, accepting and encouraging experience. The goal is to enhance children's social, emotional and cognitive development while creating an opportunity for joyful moments together.

AFTERNOON  
TEA  
PROVIDED



Term 3

Wednesday- 2:15pm-3pm



0352484176



Newcomb Primary School



Richard Street, Newcomb





# End of Term Concert

Tuesday 16th September

Concert 5.45pm - 6.45pm

All family and friends are invited to share in dinner from 5pm

Geelong Salvation Army  
239 Malop St



Rehearsal 4pm - 5pm

Dinner 5pm - 5.45pm

Concert 5.45pm - 6.45pm

For more information phone  
Jono 0412 128 505

The Victorian Health Building Authority (VHBA) has asked our school to participate in an art competition. Whilst the new Barwon Women's and Children's is being built at the Geelong hospital, local primary school artwork will be used on the boarding of the site. The competition was open to grade 1-4. Andi's work has been chosen to represent our school.





## Stress, Worry or Anxiety?

Kids Helpline have some wonderful resources available online. Below is a simple flowchart about stress, worry and anxiety. This could be a helpful tool if your child is experiencing one of these emotions. But always remember to seek professional help if needed.



If you would like to connect with myself, please pop in or call the office to make an appointment  
Kylie Scandolera - Mental Health and Wellbeing Support.



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



## KELLY CLUB NEWCOMB UPDATE

### What's been happening in Term 3...

Kelly Club has been buzzing with fun and creativity! We'd like to give a big warm welcome to all the new faces who have joined us – it's been so lovely seeing our Kelly Club family grow. From action-packed Kelly Sport Friday sessions outside, to endless colouring, DIY fridge magnets, keychains, and mindfulness jars, the fun (and creativity!) just keeps on coming.

It's also been wonderful to see how close our group has become. The children are adjusting so well to new routines, supporting each other, and building strong friendships along the way. It's clear that while we're learning and creating, we're also having so much fun together as one big OSHC family.



**KELLY CLUB**  
**JOIN US AT KELLY CLUB!**  
 At Kelly Club, we offer quality out-of-school hours care in a safe and supportive environment, with programs tailored for all ages and skill levels.  
**ENROL NOW** [www.kellyclub.com.au](http://www.kellyclub.com.au)

As Term 3 comes to an end, we're sending it off with a week full of excitement! We'll be baking up some tasty treats, getting crafty with our very own take-home coasters, and finishing the week on a high with a big Kelly Sports session. It's the perfect way to celebrate the end of the term!

| THEME: CREATIVE + ACTIVE FUN<br>Term 3 week 9 15/09/2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   |
| 7:00 - 8:00 am   | Breakfast Club!                                    | Breakfast Club!                                    | Breakfast Club!                                    | Breakfast Club!                                    | Breakfast Club!                                    |
| 8:00 - 8:45 am   | Tidy up & Shower                                   | Tidy up & Shower                                   | Tidy up & Shower                                   | Tidy up & Shower                                   | Tidy up & Shower                                   |
| 8:45 - 9:30 am   | Sign in & Mindfulness                              | Sign in & Mindfulness                              | Sign in & Mindfulness                              | Sign in & Mindfulness                              | Sign in & Mindfulness                              |
| 9:30 - 10:00 am  | Afternoon Tea - Fruit platter, cheese and biscuits | Afternoon Tea - Fruit platter, cheese and biscuits | Afternoon Tea - Fruit platter, cheese and biscuits | Afternoon Tea - Fruit platter, cheese and biscuits | Afternoon Tea - Fruit platter, cheese and biscuits |
| 10:00 - 11:00 am   | <b>OUTDOOR GAME</b>                                | <b>SINGING</b>                                     | <b>DECORATING COASTERS</b>                         | <b>BAKING</b>                                      | <b>KELLY SPORTS</b>                                |
| 11:00 - 12:00 pm   | Tidy Up/Outside                                    | Tidy Up/Outside                                    | Tidy Up/Washroom                                   | Tidy Up/Outside Play                               | Tidy Up/Outside Play                               |
| 12:00 - 1:00 pm  | Late snack & group game                            | Late snack & group game                            | Late snack & group game                            | Late snack & group game                            | Late snack & group game                            |
| 1:00 - 2:00 pm   | Homework & quiet activities                        | Homework & quiet activities                        | Homework & quiet activities                        | Homework & quiet activities                        | Homework & quiet activities                        |

**FANTASTIC FRIDAY'S**  
 AT YOUR KELLY CLUB  
**FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD**  
 Join us for Food, Glorious Food! Create mouthwatering masterpieces with edible art and compete in a thrilling team cooking showdown. It's a feast of fun and flavor – don't miss the culinary excitement!  
**BOOK NOW LIMITED SPACES**  
**KELLY CLUB**

### 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!



**BOOK ONLINE NOW AT** [www.kellyclub.com.au](http://www.kellyclub.com.au)