



Newcomb Newsletter

Term 1, Week 2, Friday 6th February



IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY

- 6th - NPS Dress Up day
- 6th - Assembly 2.50pm
- 10th - School Council 4.45pm
- 11th - No Preps at school today
- 12th - Whole School Excursion
- 15th - No Preps at school today
- 16th - Evacuation Drill
- 17th - Bravehearts Program (F-2)
- 18th - No Preps at school today
- 19th - Open Morning 9-11am
- 20th - Assembly 2.50pm
- 25th - No school for Preps
- 27th - Clean Up Australia Day

MARCH

- 2nd - 6th - SSG Meetings
- 3rd - Parent Teacher Meet & Greets
- 6th - Assembly 2.50pm
- 9th - Labour Day Public Holiday
- 11th - 23rd - NAPLAN
- 16th - School Tour (2027 Enrolments) 9am
- 17th - School Council AGM 4.45pm
- 18th - Whole School Cross Country
- 19th - School Tour (2027 Enrolments) 9am
- 20th - Harmony Day
- 20th - P&F Meeting 2.15pm
- 20th - Assembly 2.50pm
- 24th - NPS School Review



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had an incredible start to the school year and we could not be more proud of the students, staff and our families. We began last Tuesday with a full day of professional learning for our staff. Our teachers spent the day on site making connections as a team and consolidating our plans for the school year. Our Education Support Staff spent the afternoon at GMHBA stadium participating in a range of professional learning sessions run by the Department of Education. It was a brilliant day for our staff.

We would like to thank parents for bringing their children in on Wednesday for our assessment day. This quality one on one time is a great way for teachers to meet with each student individually to connect and gain important information about their current learning capabilities. On Thursday we had our first day with all students on site and we welcomed our wonderful new Foundation students. It is such a privilege to be witness to and support any child's first day of school and this year was no exception. Our Foundation class has embraced school life so well over the last week and we would like to warmly welcome each student and their families to our school community. Thankyou for trusting us to nurture your child's learning and development over the next seven years. And a big thank you to Miss Devlin, Kayley, Jas and Malka for the incredible work they are doing with our newest members of NPS!

We have completed our first full week for the school year and we are excited for what is ahead. Staff and students have engaged in our Jump into Newcomb program this week with lots of activities to learn about themselves as learners, to learn about each other as a classroom community and to learn about our school expectations and routines. I'd like to thank Jess Fatone and Sherridan Woolard, our two new PLC leaders for the work they have done in preparing an exceptional Jump into Newcomb Program for everyone this year.

Today we celebrate our annual NPS day and next week we have our annual whole school excursion. It is going to be a fun and productive term and we are excited to share it with you all! Please come and see us anytime,

Blanche Denmead & Carmen Britnell - Principal Team

IMPORTANT INFORMATION & UPDATES

JUMP INTO NEWCOMB

The Jump into Newcomb Program runs for the first three weeks of term across the whole school. This program was designed to support the transition back to school after the holidays and aims to establish a sense of community and share practices that set each student and class up for success.

Each day begins with our welcome circle which incorporates a greeting, GEM chat, positive primer, acknowledgement to country and any announcements for the day.

There are four elements to the program that are explored each day. The first is sharing and learning about themselves, both as a person and as a learner. Students share about their family, their hobbies and their strengths. The second element is about how to be successful at school. These activities include looking at what makes a great student, a great school, exploring the zones of regulation and creating their own ready to learn plan.

The third element is learning about our school expectations and routines. This includes learning about our school values (Respect, Responsibility and Resilience), our behaviour matrix and token reward system. It also includes learning about brain breaks and individual programs students may have to support their learning. The fourth element of the program focus' on establishing connections within the classroom. This involves fun team games, mindfulness and exploring our school grounds.

We look forward to our final week of the program next week.

SCHOOL PICK UP AND DROP OFF

Our school day begins at 8.50am and finishes at 3.15pm. Students are able to arrive at school from 8.30am as this is when there is a staff member on yard duty in the morning. Students are encouraged to arrive between 8.30am and 8.50am so that they have some time to settle in and have a play with some friends before it is time for class to begin at 8.50am.

If you need to collect your child early from school for an appointment, you are required to sign your child out at the school office. We will call the classroom and your child will come to the office for collection. We encourage you to notify your classroom teacher if your child will be leaving for a planned appointment via email/phone or ClassDojo.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attending school each day is incredibly important for all students. Our students are learning each day, developing friendships and skills that support them to be successful at both school and in life. If your child is unwell or unable to attend school parents are required to provide a reason for their absence via the Compass application. According to the Department of Education Attendance Policy, parents/carers are legally required to ensure their child attends school every day, and if an absence is required, you must provide an explanation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school. Being away from school for 1 day a fortnight adds up to missing 4 whole weeks of school a year. We encourage you to plan appointments outside of school time where possible and ensure your child attends school consistently.

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),
- Calista Davis (Vice President),
- TBC (Secretary),
- Allison Fogarty (Treasurer),
- Morgan Foster (Community Representative),
- Lyn Wilcock (Parent Representative),
- Penny Winbolt (Parent Representative),
- Rachel Smith (Parent Representative),
- Donna Parsons (DET Representative),
- Michelle Stewart (DET Representative),
- Carmen Britnell (Principal).

The school council meeting dates for 2026 are:

- Term 1 - 10th February & 17th March (AGM)
- Term 2 - Tuesday 13th May & Tuesday 17th June
- Term 3 - Tuesday 28th July & Tuesday 1st September
- Term 4 - Tuesday 20th October & Tuesday 1st December



Weeks 1 & 2 in grades 5 and 6



During weeks 1 and 2 the grade 5's and 6's have 'Jumped into Newcomb'! We have discussed school values, class routines, and what makes a good teacher and student. The grade 5's and 6's have learned new games and problem solving tasks, and have discussed what it means to have a growth mindset and how it is ok to feel every emotion. What a great start to the year!

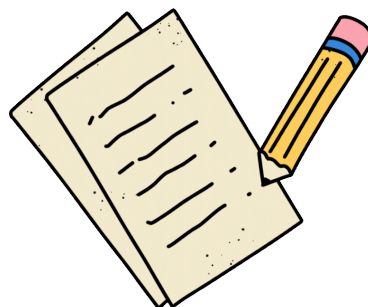




A GREAT START TO 2026

WOW, what a great start to the year we have had!

It's lovely to visit all the classrooms and see children making connections again with their peers and teachers. All grades have been busy working on our 'Jump into Newcomb' lessons. We're looking forwards to 'NPS Dress Up' tomorrow and the excursion to Eastern Beach next week.



WHAT IS A MOMENT YOU ARE GRATEFUL FOR THIS WEEK?

ASSESSMENT

Beginning of Year

Thankyou to everyone for bringing your children into school last Wednesday to complete assessment tasks.

Teachers worked with the students to complete our beginning of year DIBELS benchmark. The purpose of DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) is to quickly assess and monitor key early literacy skills (phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, comprehension). It includes subtests such as Letter Naming Fluency, Nonsense Word Fluency, Oral Reading Fluency and Comprehension.

Over the next couple of weeks in class, children will also complete Math and Writing assessments.

Professional Learning

Education Support staff members had a great afternoon at Skilled Stadium last week and next week we will have teams from Grade 1, 2 and 6 working with behaviour analyst Dan Petro for the day. Finally, congratulations to our superstar Grade 1 teacher, Poppy O'Shea, who has her formal graduation from Deakin University next Monday.

Thanks, and have a great week
Robyn Evans
Assistant Principal

Inclusion at Newcomb PS

At our school, inclusion is not just something we talk about, it is something we live every day. We are proud to be a community where every child and every family belongs.

What it looks like in the classroom



In inclusive classrooms, students don't all do the same thing - they all get what they need to learn and grow.

You might see:

- Students working in flexible groups
- Different learning goals or tasks
- Extra adults supporting learning
- Use of visuals, brain breaks or sensory tools
- Individual learning plans, behaviour support plans or targeted programs
- Extension and enrichment opportunities

These supports and strategies help students feel confident, capable and ready to learn. Just like adults use different tools to do their jobs well, students use different supports to be successful learners.

What it looks like in the playground

The playground is a place where students learn social skills, build friendships and practise kindness.

Inclusive playgrounds mean:

- Everyone is welcomed into games
- Students look out for each other
- Differences are respected and celebrated
- Students are supported to solve problems calmly and respectfully
- Kindness, empathy and teamwork are encouraged

We actively teach and support students to include others, be upstanders and help everyone feel they belong.



What it looks like in the community

Inclusion extends beyond the classroom and playground. It lives in the way we speak, think and act as a community. Children learn how to treat others by watching the adults around them. Families play a powerful role in modelling inclusive values.

We can support inclusion by:

- Speaking positively and respectfully about others
- Celebrating diversity and difference
- Showing empathy and understanding
- Remembering every child and family has their own story

When school and home work together, we create a community where every child feels safe, valued and proud to belong.



Term 1 2026

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	26th Jan Australia Day	27th Jan Whole Staff PD Day 11.30am ES PD	28th Jan Assessment Day	29th Jan First day for students Grade F-6	30th Jan
2	2nd Feb Staff Induction	3rd Feb	4th Feb No school for preps	5th Feb	6th Feb NPS Dress Up Day 9:00am Parade 2:50pm- Assembly
3	9th Feb Staff Induction	10th Feb 4.45pm School Council	11th Feb No school for preps	12th Feb 9:00am-12:00pm Eastern Gardens Excursion	13th Feb
4	16th Feb Staff Induction Evacuation Drill (onsite)	17th Feb Bravehearts Program (F-2)	18th Feb No school for preps	19th Feb 9-11am Open Morning All Welcome	20th Feb 2:50pm-Assembly All welcome
5	23rd Feb Staff Induction	24th Feb 3.15 Consultative Meeting	25th Feb No school for preps	26th Feb	27th Feb Clean Up Australia Day JSC Event: TBC
6	2nd March SSG Meetings	3rd March SSG Meetings Parent Teacher Meet & Greet	4th March SSG Meetings	5th March SSG Meetings	6th March SSG Meetings 2:50pm- Assembly All welcome
7	9th March Labour Day	10th March 3.15 Consultative Meeting	11th March NAPLAN Begins	12th March	13th March
8	16th March *9:00am - 2027 Prospective Enrolments School Tour	17th March 4.45pm School Council (AGM)	18th March Whole school Cross Country (Ervin Reserve)	19th March *9:00am - 2027 Prospective Enrolments School Tour	20th March Harmony Day 2:15pm - P&F Meeting 2:50pm- Assembly All welcome
9	23rd March NAPLAN Finishes	24th March School Review	25th March	26th March 11am 100s Club	27th March
10	30th March	31st March 2.15pm Brainstorm Productions - whole school show 'The Protectors'	1st April	2nd April Last day of term! 9:00am Assembly Glowtastic Disco Party! Easter Raffle 1:30pm-2:15pm 2:15 Finish	3rd of April Good Friday

Term 1 Working Bee - Sunday 1st March 10-1pm



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**

ENROL NOW AND JOIN THE
KELLY CLUB FUN!
SCAN HERE



Inclusion at Newcomb PS

At our school, inclusion is not just something we talk about, it is something we live every day. We are proud to be a community where every child and every family belongs.

What inclusion means in our classrooms

Every student comes to school with their own strengths, interests, experiences and challenges. Inclusion means recognising and celebrating these differences while making sure every learner has what they need to succeed.

In our classrooms you might notice:

- Students working in different groups
- Different learning goals or tasks
- Additional adults supporting some students
- Flexible seating or learning spaces
- Visual supports, technology or sensory tools

These are not signs that something is "different" — they are signs that something is working.

Just like adults use different tools to do their jobs well, students use different strategies and supports to help them learn, feel safe and be successful. Some students may have individual learning plans, targeted interventions, or wellbeing supports. Others may need extension, enrichment or leadership opportunities. Inclusion means every learner gets what they need, not the same thing.

Inclusion is everyone's responsibility

A truly inclusive school doesn't stop at the classroom door. It extends into our playgrounds, events and wider community.

Children learn how to treat others by watching the adults around them. When we speak positively about others, show empathy and celebrate differences, our children learn to do the same.

We ask families to help us by:

- Speaking respectfully about all students and families
- Celebrating diversity and difference
- Modelling kindness, patience and understanding
- Remembering that every child is doing their best with the tools they have

A kind comment at the school gate, a supportive conversation with your child, or a willingness to understand someone else's experience can make a powerful difference.

Why inclusion matters

Inclusive schools help children:

- Feel safe and valued
- Build empathy and respect
- Develop confidence and resilience
- Learn to work with people who are different from them
- Prepare for the diverse world beyond school

When students feel they belong, they are more engaged, more confident and more ready to learn.

Our shared goal

Inclusion is a partnership between school and home. Together, we create a community where every child can say:

"I feel safe. I feel valued. I belong."

Thank you for being part of a community that celebrates every learner.



**KELLY
SPORTS**



TERM 1 SPORTS!



NEWCOMB P.S

FRIDAY'S MULTI-SPORT 3:30PM - 4:30PM 6TH FEB TO 27TH MAR

BASKETBALL | SOCCER | TENNIS | CRICKET

\$160
+GST FOR A 9
WEEK PROGRAM

**SIGN UP AT
ANY TIME
DURING THE
TERM!**



**30% NEW BALANCE FOR ALL
TERM 1 BOOKINGS**
*T&CS APPLY



ENROL ONLINE
WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU/GEELONG
QUERIES: NICK 0497 770 909
GEELONG@KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU

Parenting Education Programs Term 1, 2026



All of our
programs
are FREE!



Bumps to Bubs

Pre-birth – 12 months

Bumps to Bubs brings together young mothers and mothers-to-be up to age 25 with babies zero to one, in a supportive environment. This enables a relaxed opportunity to build friendships and share in the journey of parenting.



Bubs to Tots

12 months – two years

Bubs to Tots offers support and education to mothers (up to 24 years old) of children one to two years old. Through the use of play, the program informs parents about children's early development and helps them navigate the toddler years.



Circle of Security

Birth – five years

Circle of Security is an eight-week program for parents of children aged zero to five years. The program helps parents build a secure and safe foundation for their children during the early years.



Bringing Up Great Kids

12 months – 12 years

Bringing Up Great Kids helps parents of children aged 12 months to 12 years. The program helps parents enhance their communication skills to ensure they're having positive interactions with their children and fostering a strong sense of self-identity.



Tuning In to Kids

Three years – 12 years

Tuning in to Kids is a six-week supportive program for parents of children aged three to 12 years. The program helps parents work with their children to better understand and express their emotions. This aims to maximise social, behavioural and learning outcomes.



Dads Tuning In to Kids

Three years – 12 years

Dads Tuning in to Kids is a six-week program for fathers of children aged three to 12 years. The program helps fathers tune into their child's emotions and develops their confidence to manage and respond to the emotional needs of their child.



Strengthening Family Connections

Eight years – 12 years

Strengthening Family Connections is an eight-week program for parents and their children aged eight to 12 years. The program helps improve communication among family members through focusing on family culture and routines to enhance the home environment.



Bringing Up Great Kids - Parenting Adolescents

Eight years – 12 years

Bringing Up Great Kids - Parenting Adolescents is a six-week program for parents of children aged 10 years to 18 years. The program helps parents build positive relationships, better understand the adolescent brain and explore the changing role from 'custodian' to 'consultant'.



Tuning In to Teens

10 years – 18 years

Tuning in to Teens is a six-week program for parents of adolescents aged 10 years to 18 years. The program helps parents connect and communicate with their teen and assists them with strategies to foster emotional intelligence and support them through this period of their lives.



Bringing Up Great Kids in the First 1000 Days

Birth – two years

Bringing Up Great Kids in the First 1000 Days is a six-week program for expectant parents and parents of children up to two years, aimed at increasing parental knowledge during the first 1000 days of a child's life. Parents will be educated about how speech and actions impact on behaviour and development.













Navigating Separation and Co-parenting

Birth – adolescence

Navigating Separation and Co-parenting is a free six-week parenting after separation program to assist parents adjusting to separation, improving the co-parenting relationship, and supporting their children after separation. Please direct enquires to navigatingseparation@meli.org.au



GROUP	VENUE	DATES	DAYS/TIMES
 Circle of Security	Norlane Child & Family Centre 52-56 Gerbera Avenue Norlane	5 February – 26 March	Thursdays 10am – 12pm
 Dads Tuning Into Kids	Mell 16 Ballarat Road Hamlyn Heights	11 February – 18 March	Wednesdays 5.30pm – 7.30pm
 Tuning In to Kids	Mell 16 Ballarat Rd Hamlyn Heights	10 February – 17 March	Tuesdays 10am – 12pm
 Tuning in to Teens	Mell Poa Banyul 110 Unity Dr Mt Duneed	12 February – 19 March	Thursdays 1.00pm – 3.00pm
 Bumps to Bubs Armstrong Creek	Armstrong Creek East Community Hub 46 Central Boulevard Armstrong Creek	Every school term Term 1 dates: 28 January – 1 April	Wednesdays 1pm – 2.30pm
 Bumps to Bubs Corio	Northern Bay Family Learning Centre Goldsworthy Rd Corio (Early Help)	Every school term Term 1 dates: 28 January – 1 April	Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3pm
 Bumps to Bubs Whittington	Whittington Child and Family Centre 27 Apollo Place Whittington	Every school term Term 1 dates: 28 January – 1 April	Wednesdays 1pm – 2.30pm
 Bubs to Tots	Northern Bay Family Learning Centre Goldsworthy Rd Corio (Early Help)	Every school term Term 1 dates: 29 January – 2 April	Thursdays 10am – 11:30am
 Strengthening Family Connections	Mell 16 Ballarat Road Hamlyn Heights	Term 1 dates: 5 February – 26 March (8 weeks)	Thursdays 4:30pm – 7.30pm
 Navigating Separation & Co-parenting <small>g navigatingseparation@meli.org.au</small>	Mell 25 Gordon Ave Geelong West	4 February – 18 March	Wednesdays 11am – 12:30pm

To avoid disappointment please register early.
Registrations close 2 weeks prior to group start date.

meli.org.au 03 5226 8900 groups@meli.org.au meli.community

Scan the QR code
to register for our
free Meli Parenting
Programs. →



FREE FOOD & FREE TAFE FOOD HANDLING CERTIFICATE



FOOD 4 FUTURE

Food 4Future brings youngpeople together for three free workshops on food and life skills — including meal planning, budgeting, shopping, and cooking.

- Free food
- Free TAFE Food Handling Certificate
- Free kitchen kit and veggie box
- Ages 15–24
- Free to attend

Running in January 2026 at:

- Newcomb Library
- Biyal-a Armstrong Creek Library
- Corio Library

Book your spot here:



For information about future sessions and locations, contact info@grlc.vic.gov.au.

www.grlc.vic.gov.au

book
now

All events are FREE unless otherwise specified.
Bookings essential.
Online www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events.
In person at any branch, or phone 4201 0600

JUNIOR FOOTBALLERS

U10, U12, U14, U16,
U17 GIRLS, U18

contact Jade Morris on 0402 614 894 or
email junior.football@stalbandsfnc.com

WE WANT YOU!



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

RAISING GRATEFUL HEARTS FORUM

**PRESENTED BY POSITIVE PARENTING
EXPERT ROD SOPER**

Discover practical rituals and simple language to help children notice the good, practise thankfulness and turn appreciation into meaningful acts of kindness.

Learn everyday strategies to embed gratitude into mealtimes, school runs, bedtime and family routines.

Explore age-appropriate (birth to 12 years) activities, conversation starters and quick games backed by research, child development principles and real-life practice.

Build empathy, resilience and joy as a family through positive connection and shared appreciation.

Take home a mini gratitude toolkit you can start using immediately to encourage kindness and connection at home and in your community.

This forum supports our ongoing commitment to strengthening family wellbeing, empowering parents, and building connected communities.



THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY

7.00pm–9.00pm

VENUE

Norlane ARC
1/9 Cox Rd, Norlane

BOOKINGS

Scan the QR code
or visit

geelong.link/GratefulHearts



This is a **FREE** event but
bookings are essential.





GEEELONG YOUTH CHOIR

REGISTER NOW!

Give your child the gift of music with singing

- Highly qualified conductors & music staff
- All ages welcome from 8-18 years
- Regular concerts and special events
- Welcoming, supportive and inclusive
- Located at Deakin Uni Waurin Ponds

How to Join

- Sign up for a FREE trial session
- Enquiries: Megan Morrison
- E: geelongyouthchoir@gmail.com
- M: 0402 599 984
- Visit www.geelongyouthchoir.com

Prelude Choir

Ages 8-10*

- Junior choir for young singers
- Learn how to read music Develop vocal technique Musicianship and aural training using renowned Kodály method Rehearsals every Wednesday during school term from 5:00-6:30pm

*Younger singers considered based on ability and maturity



Cantore Choir

Ages 10-18

- Senior choir for more advanced singers
- Wide range of songs and genres
- Musicianship and aural training using renowned Kodály method
- Rehearsals every Wednesday during school term from 4:30-6:30pm



Incorporating
Voices of
Geelong
Adult Choir

Scan the QR code
to complete an
expression of
interest form





GEELONG
HIGH SCHOOL

Join us to experience all that Geelong High School has to offer our prospective Year 7 students.

Wednesday 11th March 2026

INFORMATION EVENING

Session 1 - 4:30pm

Session 2 - 5:30pm

Session 3 - 6:30pm

Venue: C. A. Love Hall

*Sessions will be followed
by tours of the school.*

385 Ryrie Street, East Geelong, Victoria 3219

Egeelong.hs@education.vic.gov.au P (03) 5225 4100 geelonghigh.vic.edu.au

• *Prepares us for Life* •

Social Saturday ²⁰²⁶

TERM ONE SCHEDULE



Social Saturday is a supported group program for children with NDIS funding to build friendships, confidence, and social skills through fun activities.

FEB
07

VISIT TO BANNOCKBURN WATERPARK

No Additional Costs
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

FEB
14

VALENTINES DAY CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE HUB

\$10 Additional Cost
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

FEB
21

DAY AT ADVENTURE PARK

\$76 for non-season pass holders
\$15 for 2025/2026 pass holders
Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm

FEB
28

COOGOORAH PARK PLAYGROUND & JUMPZ ANGLESEA

\$22 Additional Cost
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Who is this program for

- Children aged 5-13 with NDIS funding
- Children who benefit from extra support in social settings
- Children who enjoy small groups and structured activities

How to Contact Us

- Email us at geelongprograms@abilitydn.com
- Visit us at 32/282 Thompson Road North Geelong VIC 3215, Australia
- Call us at 0435 912 137



Scan to Join our Programs

MAR
07

LEGO CHALLENGE DAY AT THE HUB

\$5 Additional Cost
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

MAR
14

RIVERWALK VILLAGE PARK & SPLASHPARK WERRIBEE

No Additional Costs
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

MAR
21

POOL DAY AT NORLANE ARC

\$22 Additional Cost (includes unlimited waterslides)
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm

MAR
28

CHOCOLATE LOLLIPOP DECORATING AT THE HUB

\$10 Additional Cost
Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm



OPEN NOW!

Greater Geelong Speech Pathology is excited to announce its expansion to 41 Boundary Road, Newcomb 3219.

Contact Us:

5260 1840

Press "2" for Newcomb



TAKE A LOOK...



IMMEDIATE AVAILABILITY

Our speech pathologists Ashleigh, Louisa, and Disha all have availability for clinic-based appointments on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

