



Noorat Primary School
Mackinnon's Bridge Road, Noorat Vic 3265
P: 03 5592 5282 E: noorat.ps@education.vic.gov.au
W: nooratps.vic.edu.au
Principal: Mrs. Ilona Watkins

School Newsletter

Term 1 2023 | Issue 4

A Word From The Principal

We have spent the week working collaboratively to investigate our families, beliefs and values surrounding inclusion and belonging. Australia is a highly multicultural country, and we love the diversity and experiences each person brings based on their varying backgrounds and experiences. The school-home-community partnerships and highly personalised learning that we can offer every student at Noorat is evident in every interaction, and the positive word is spreading among the wider community as we welcome new students.

Harmony Week

This week students have been learning about how we can all increase inclusiveness, respect and belonging by having important discussions around diversity, racism, bullying and kindness. We have had deep conversations about ways we can bring people together and navigate life by celebrating diversity, not tolerating racism, exhibiting kindness and by lifting and supporting others while celebrating what each of us unique.

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Samantha Meade and David Holscher to our incredible Noorat PS school community. Samantha has already commenced this week, working in the F-2 learning community on a Tuesday and Wednesday. David will be joining us each Friday for our Hands on Learning program – we look forward to welcoming David to school once his HoL training is complete. I know that every student and parent will make both Sam and David feel welcome.

2024 Prep Information & School Tours

It is hard to believe we are thinking about 2024, as we approach the end of Term 1, however the Department of Education (DE) have brought forward the enrolment timelines for students. As a result, we will be providing our first school tours and an open night at the beginning of Term 2. Keep an eye on our social media platforms for information in the coming week.

Warrnambool Lions Eye Screening Assessments

It was wonderful to welcome Sue, Annette, Maureen and Bev to Noorat this week to spend a little time with every student completing a range of eye screen tests. The Lions Club of Warrnambool provide this service all around our Region, ensuring families become aware early if a child is having difficulty seeing. The students thoroughly enjoyed each sub-test and came back beaming after this free experience. Thank you ladies, for your support and volunteering your time for this wonderful program.

School News

NAPLAN

This past week our Year 3 & 5 students have been sitting NAPLAN testing. NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake. As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well that are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance. I would like to congratulate our Year 3 and 5 students on their effort and positive attitude towards NAPLAN. They have just Numeracy to complete tomorrow, with a little morning tea to follow as a celebration.

Hona Watkins

Principal

School Council

School Council nominations have closed – thank you to Jess Beer who has joined our council. We have 1 parent and 1 community position still vacant (non-Department employee) if you know someone or would like to join yourself.

**The Annual General Meeting of Noorat Primary School,
School Council will be held**

on Tuesday March 28th
at Noorat Primary School – Staffroom
commencing at 6.30pm

Eater Raffle

This year we are again holding our Easter Raffle and ask that each family donate at least one Easter egg, basket or something suitable as a raffle prize. All donated items will be made up into Easter Basket prizes.

We ask that all donations for the raffle be sent to school by Monday 3rd April.

Each student has been issued with one book of 20 raffle tickets.

Tickets are 50c each (please write on both sides).

Please return all tickets and money to school by **Monday 3rd April**.

The raffle will be drawn on **Thursday 6th April at 2.20pm**.

A poster for an Easter Raffle. The title 'Easter Raffle' is written in a large, black, cursive font at the top. Below the title, the text reads: 'Easter Raffle books will be sent home tomorrow.' followed by '50c a ticket' in a larger font. The next line says: 'We ask each family to please donate an Easter item (eggs / chocolate, colouring books, plush toys etc.) so we can make a wonderful Easter hamper prize.' Below that, it says: 'Please kindly deliver donations to the office by Monday April 3rd.' At the bottom, it says: 'Drawn Thursday April 6th at a Special end of term Assembly commencing at 2.20pm.' The background of the poster features a basket of Easter eggs and flowers.

Easter Raffle

Easter Raffle books will be sent home tomorrow.

50c a ticket

We ask each family to please donate an Easter item (eggs / chocolate, colouring books, plush toys etc.) so we can make a wonderful Easter hamper prize.

Please kindly deliver donations to the office by Monday April 3rd.

Drawn Thursday April 6th at a Special end of term Assembly commencing at 2.20pm.

End of School for Term 1

Please remember that the last day of school for Term 1 will be on **Thursday 6th April**, school will finish at **2.30pm**.

Junior School Council

On **Wednesday 5th April** in the afternoon students will attend a JSC movie event. There will be snacks and drinks to purchase on the day.

Chips and popcorn 50c

Drinks \$1.50

In Term 2 on **Thursday 11th May**.

Students and staff are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite singer/Popstar. The day has been planned by the students to raise money for Children with Cancer.

So put on your thinking hats and start planning.

Please bring a gold coin donation.

School Hours

Classes begin at 9am and finish at 3.30pm. Please ensure your child/ren are here and ready to start class on time. It is good practice to allow them **10 minutes** to do what they need to do before the bell goes each morning.

Office Hours

The Office Hours are 8.30am – 4.30pm, Tuesday and Thursday.

Late arrivals and early departures

Students arriving late or needing to leave early must report at the office. The parent can collect and sign in or out. This is a safety requirement as well as enabling us to update attendance information. is provided – this is your parental responsibility.

STUDENT AWARDS FOR THE WEEK

Term 1 Week 9 & 10

Miss Horsnell

Be Excellent- Trinity Bell-

Over the last few weeks we have been learning about what addition is and the 'friends of ten'. Trinity has participated in all learning activities and because of her hard work she can name the friends of ten independently! Super effort Trinity!!

Mrs Watkins

Be Excellent- Aidan Hill & Callum Baird

Over the past 9 days, Callum and Aidan have both completed their NAPLAN testing. They have each shown great positivity and focused during each testing session. It can be a daunting process, especially the first time, and we are so proud of how they each approached the process. Amazing effort!

Responsible Pet Program

The 1-6's learned all about how to responsibly take care of their own dogs, how to approach an unknown dog and how to respond when a dog appears angry.



Noorat Learning Community

BE EXCELLENT
BE RESPECTFUL

BE CARING
BE RESPONSIBLE

L.O.T.E - AUSLAN

So far, students have learnt how to say 'hello' and 'good' as well as a couple of emotions: 'sad' and 'angry'.

They've also learnt the alphabet and are proudly signing their name to everyone who enters the school.

We are thrilled that every student will learn AUSLAN (Australian Sign Language) each week whilst at Noorat.



ALPHABET			
A	B	C	D
E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P
Q	R	S	T
U	V	W	X
Y	Z		

Excellence, Care, Respect and Responsibility

Encouraging respect for cultural diversity

Early childhood is an ideal time for children to learn about and form friendships with people from different cultures, races and ethnicities.

Here are 3 simple ways you can encourage respect for cultural diversity in your setting...



Explore similarities and differences

Emphasise how we are all special and unique in our own way but share many things in common.

Challenge stereotypes

Identifying and challenging harmful stereotypes is an important way of preventing prejudice.



Discover more about different cultures and different families

Discover new things about different cultures, families and communities through art, music, stories, museums, libraries and festivals. Find out more about different families' customs, values and beliefs.



Find out more ways to build belonging in your centre here:
www.humanrights.gov.au/education/early-childhood/building-belonging



Important Dates to Remember

TERM 1 CALENDAR DATES

Tuesday 28 th March	School Council Meeting, 6.30 - 8.00pm
Thursday 30 th March	Hockey Victoria Incursion
Friday 31 st March	Ilona Out - Koorie Cultural Leader Day
Wednesday 5 th April	JSC – Movie Afternoon
Thursday 6 th April	Assembly- Easter Raffle drawn 2.20pm End of Term 1, 2.30pm finish

TERM 2 CALENDAR DATES

Monday 24 th April	Beginning of Term 2
Tuesday 25 th April	ANZAC Day
Thursday 27 th April	Ilona Out - Principal Network Meeting
Thursday 11 th May	JSC Dress up Day
Friday 12 th May- Wednesday 24 th May	Scholastic Book Fair, 8.30-8.50am every morning
Friday 12 th May	District Cross Country – PFA Fundraiser
Monday 15 th – 19 th May	Education Week
Tuesday 16 th May	School Council Meeting
Thursday 18 th May	Grandparents & Special Friends Day
Friday 19 th May	Curriculum Day
Tuesday 23 rd May	Local Learning Project Day, Year 3 – 6
Wednesday 24 th May	National Simultaneous Storytime Ilona Out - Numeracy PDP
Thursday 25 th May	Personal Development Student Sessions, Year 3-6
Saturday 27 th May Saturday 3 rd June May	National Reconciliation Week MABO Day 3 rd June