

AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER #6 Friday May 1, 2026

VISION STATEMENT: Avondale Primary School; a community that strives for excellence through high quality learning, engagement and wellbeing for all.

VALUES: Learning, Respect, Responsibility

Avondale Primary School is a Child Safe School. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people and have zero tolerance for child abuse.

Acknowledgement of Country



Hello to our Avondale community,

Welcome to Term Two. This week our school community came together to honour ANZAC Day, led by our School Captains, with a thoughtful and heartfelt online assembly. Across all year levels, students shared the learning they had engaged in, exploring the history, values and significance of ANZAC Day through facts, discussions, poetry, artwork and personal reflections. What stood out most was the maturity and empathy with which our students approached this important part of our national story. Whether they were explaining the origins of the ANZAC tradition, presenting creative writing, or showcasing symbolic artwork, each student represented their learning with confidence and respect. Their contributions demonstrated not only a strong understanding of the past, but also a deep appreciation for the themes of courage, service and community that continue to shape us today. We are incredibly proud of the way our students shared their voices and supported one another in commemorating ANZAC Day. Their thoughtful participation helped create a meaningful and reflective experience for our whole school community. Lest we forget.

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 2 2026

Tuesday 5 May	Grade 1 Community Walk 2.30pm Fundraising Committee Meeting
Thursday 7 May	Mother's and Special Person's Day Stall <i>Please email the school if you are able to volunteer on the day</i> 2.30pm Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting
Friday 8 May	9.00am Webex Assembly 4:00pm Book Club LOOP Closes <i>(All orders are placed through Scholastic Loop)</i>
Tuesday 12 May	Grade 2 Community Walk
Wednesday 13 May	11.00am Education Subcommittee Meeting
Friday 15 May	9.00am Webex Assembly 9.30am School Tour Education Support Staff Celebration Day
Tuesday 19 May	6.30pm School Council meeting
Friday 22 May	Curriculum Day Students are not required at school Team Kids Vacation Care available
Monday 8 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 16 June	5.00pm-6.00pm Foundation 2027 Information Session for prospective families
Monday 22 June	Cyber Safety Project in school Event
Friday 26 June	Last day Term 2 2.15pm dismissal



With many students choosing to ride or scoot to school, we are continuing to promote safe habits that reflect our school values of **Respect, Responsibility and Learning**. These values guide the way we move through our community and help ensure everyone arrives and leaves school safely. To support safe riding, we remind all students to:

- **Wear a properly fitted helmet** every time they ride to show *responsibility* for safety and wellbeing
- **Walk bikes and scooters through the school gates** and into the bike storage area, demonstrating *respect* for others by keeping busy entry points calm and safe
- **Ride safely when leaving school**, watching for pedestrians, cars and other riders - this is another way we show *responsibility* and care for our community
- **Use footpaths and shared paths safely**, staying aware of others
- **Ride at a safe speed**, especially around younger students

We would like to acknowledge **Hannah and Phoebe**, who model these expectations beautifully every day. They arrive wearing their helmets correctly, walk their bikes through the gate without reminders and ride responsibly as they head home. Their actions reflect all three of our school values—showing *Respect* for others, *Responsibility* for their choices, and a commitment to *Learning* safe habits. By following these simple practices, we can ensure that riding to school remains a fun, healthy and safe option for everyone in our Avondale community.



Thank you to all the families who joined us for our Parent/Carer/Guardian Teacher Conferences on Wednesday afternoon and evening. These conversations are an important part of strengthening the partnership between home and school, providing a valuable opportunity to celebrate student learning, share progress and set goals together. We appreciate the time, care and engagement shown by our staff and families. The positive conversations, thoughtful questions and genuine interest in each child's growth reflect the strong community we are so proud of at Avondale Primary School. Conferences will continue on **Monday afternoon** and we look forward to connecting with the remaining families as we work together to support every student's learning journey.

We are excited for our upcoming **Mother's and Special Person's Day Stall**, proudly organised by our Fundraising Committee. The stall will be held at school next week on **Thursday May 7**, with students having the opportunity to purchase a special gift for the important people in their lives. Gifts will range from **\$2 – \$7**. To help the stall run smoothly, please ensure:

- your child brings their money to school in a **wallet or clearly named envelope**
- this is a **cash-only** event
- students bring a **reusable carry bag** so their chosen gift can travel home safely

We look forward to a wonderful day of thoughtful choosing, big smiles and heartfelt surprises as our students celebrate the special people who support them every day on Mother's and Special Person's Day on Sunday, May 10.

As we move through the term, we'd like to remind students and families about the importance of following our **Avondale Primary School Dress Code**. Wearing our school uniform helps us show pride in our school, supports a sense of belonging and reflects our values as a community. We appreciate the support of our families in helping students present themselves confidently and safely each day. Our uniform is an important part of who we are and wearing it with pride reflects our shared values and community spirit. To help everyone stay on track:

- students should wear **school-approved uniform items** each day. This includes school jumpers and jackets.
- families will be notified if a student is wearing non-compliant items
- ongoing non-compliance will be followed up by the School Improvement Team so we can work together to support students in meeting expectations

- students are encouraged to wear no jewellery, other than small stud or sleeper earrings
- cosmetics and fake fingernails are **not permitted** at school

Further information is provided later in the newsletter.

At Avondale Primary School, we believe that a strong community is built when **students, staff and families work together with respect, responsibility and care**. Every interaction—whether in the classroom, in the yard, or at the school gate—helps shape the culture we share. Being a respectful community means:

- **speaking and listening kindly**
- **supporting one another through challenges and celebrations**
- **taking responsibility for our actions and choices**
- **showing understanding and empathy**
- **working together to create a safe, welcoming environment for all**

When we model these behaviours consistently, our students learn not only how to succeed academically, but also how to contribute positively to the world around them. Respect grows stronger when it is shared, and we are proud of the way our school community continues to uphold these values each day.

A big shout out to our Student Leaders who did an amazing job leading our Webex assembly this morning and celebrating student learning and experiences. During Term 2 and 3, our assemblies will continue to be online. This was a very successful initiative introduced last year, to reduce the number of assemblies cancelled and provide additional opportunities for families who are unable to attend in person to join online. Our students are supported with a consistent assembly routine, regardless of unpredictable weather forecasts.

Have a fantastic weekend,



Avondale PS School Improvement Team
Jill, Jenna, Sarah, Frances and Amy

2026 TERM DATES & CURRICULUM DAYS


Term 2 2026	Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June Student Free Day: Friday 22 May
Term 3 2026	Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September Student Free Day: Wednesday 19 August
Term 4 2026	Monday 5 October - Friday 18 December Student Free Day: Monday 2 November

**Mother's
and
Special Person's Day
STALL**


Thursday 7th May
Students will be visiting during class time and school hours

Friday 8th May
Stall will be open to families before school at 8:30am


Below are a few of the items available




Sticky Note & Tab Set
\$2




Shimmer Pen
\$4



Nail File
\$2



Glasses Cleaning Cloth
\$3



Stemless Glass
\$7

**** THIS IS A CASH ONLY EVENT ****

We kindly request that children bring their money in an envelope labelled with their name and class.

Please ensure each child brings a bag to carry their gifts home.

EDUCATION WEEK

Our school is celebrating Education Week 2026 from Monday 18 May to Friday 22 May. This year's theme is 'Showcase your school', encouraging school communities to celebrate what's great about their school.

There are so many great things about Avondale Primary School, from our students and staff to our supportive school community, our school facilities and our learning programs. It's all here at our school!

Stay tuned to hear about how we are celebrating Education Week with our school community...





The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and we're excited to be taking part!

This year's Challenge theme is '**Stories to discover. Stories to tell**'. Stories can inspire and challenge us, and help us grow. They open our eyes to new worlds and new ways of thinking.

the Premiers' Reading Challenge.

To **participate**, [Log in to the Premiers' Reading Challenge](#).

Your child's log in details will be glued into their Home Reading Diary/Journal.

Access the Challenge book list

The [Challenge book list](#) has lots of books to choose from. Most of the books that students read during the Challenge should be taken from the list. It is important that students:

- read books appropriate for their year or reading level
- check with their teacher or parent/carer if they want to read a book from the list for years 9 and 10 students, if they are not in those year levels (this list includes titles for mature readers).

Read a certain number of books

During the Challenge, a student will read a certain number of books that are suitable for them.

Prep to Year 2: Read a total of 30 books, with 20 or more of those books from the Challenge book list

Year 3 to Year 9: Read a total of 15 books, with 10 or more of those books from the Challenge book list

Track books read

Each student has a dashboard to track the books they read for the Challenge. Once a student has read a book, they should mark it as finished on their reading list.

Have books verified

Once a student has completed the Challenge, books need to be verified by a teacher. Following the verification, students that have completed the Challenge will receive a Certificate of Completion in Term 4.

All children who complete the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former premiers.

To learn more about the Challenge, visit [Premiers' Reading Challenge | vic.gov.au](#)

You can also contact our Challenge Coordinator – Sarah Carroll with any questions.

HEALTH ADVICE

Victorians are being reminded to stay vigilant, with poisonous mushrooms beginning to appear during autumn as conditions become cooler and wetter.

Deputy Chief Health Officer Dr Evelyn Wong is warning people not to pick or eat wild mushrooms growing in home gardens or publicly accessible areas, as they can be poisonous and unsafe to consume.

“Adults and children are advised not to handle wild mushrooms with bare hands or eat them, and pets should be kept away from areas where mushrooms are growing. Eating some wild mushroom can make you very sick or even kill you.” Dr Wong said.

There is no home test available to distinguish safe and edible mushrooms from poisonous mushrooms and unless you are an expert, do not pick and consume wild mushrooms in Victoria, including in your home garden.

Poisonous mushrooms, including death cap mushrooms and yellow-staining mushrooms, are more common in Victoria through the autumn and winter months, particularly after rain.



Death Cap Mushrooms

Yellow staining mushrooms

It is important to safely remove any wild mushrooms growing at home to reduce the risk to young children and pets.

Wild mushrooms growing in home gardens should be removed by wearing gloves, carefully placing them in a bag and disposing of them in a closed general waste (landfill) rubbish bin. Hands should be washed thoroughly afterwards.

Victorians are strongly advised to only eat mushrooms purchased from supermarkets, greengrocers or other reputable retailers.

The Victorian Poisons Centre received more than 400 calls relating to mushroom exposures in 2025, with nearly half of these calls involving exploratory exposures in children under the age of five.

Poisoning can happen to anyone consuming wild mushrooms. If you or anyone in your care may have eaten a wild mushroom, do not wait for symptoms to develop. Please call the [Victorian Poisons Centre](#) immediately on [13 11 26](#) - available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - for appropriate advice.

“Common symptoms of mushroom poisoning can include stomach pains, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea. Ingesting death cap mushrooms can lead to irreversible organ failure and ultimately result in death.”

If you or anyone in your care feels unwell after eating wild mushrooms, including with severe gastrointestinal symptoms, call **000** immediately for an ambulance. Do not call the Victorian Poisons Centre in an emergency.

If your pet has ingested a wild mushroom, contact the [Animal Poisons Helpline](#) on [1300 869 738](#) for advice.

More information about mushroom poisoning is available at the [Better Health Channel](#).

STAY WELL THIS WINTER

[Influenza \(flu\)](#) can be serious, especially for children. Choose to protect yourself and your loved ones with an [annual flu vaccine](#). The earlier you and your family get vaccinated, the better your protection heading into winter.

Keeping our school community well

We encourage parents and carers and students to:

- wash or sanitise your hands thoroughly and regularly, particularly before and after touching your face
- cough or sneeze into your elbow
- stay home if unwell and consult your GP or [Nurse-on-Call](#) as needed
- stay up to date with your flu vaccinations

Flu vaccinations

Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and older. Some people are more at risk of severe illness from flu, especially babies and toddlers. They can get a [free vaccination](#) as part of the National Immunisation Program. You can book a flu vaccine through your GP or pharmacy, or [find a flu vaccine near you](#).

RSV vaccinations for mothers and babies

[RSV \(respiratory syncytial virus\)](#) is a common virus that causes colds and ear infections. In babies, it can cause severe illness like [bronchiolitis](#). The RSV vaccine is available for pregnant women as part of the National Immunisation Program. In Victoria, eligible babies can also get the RSV vaccine until Wednesday 30 September 2026. You can speak with your GP or midwife about the vaccine.

Find out more

For more information about staying well this winter, refer to:

- your GP, pharmacist or midwife
- the Better Health Channel – [Don't risk the flu](#) campaign, including information about flu and other vaccines. This information is available in different languages
- the Better Health Channel – [RSV vaccine for mothers and infants](#)

the Raising Children Network – [influenza](#), [COVID-19](#), [bronchiolitis](#) and [helping your child prepare for vaccination](#).

RESPECTFUL, SAFE, ENGAGED: SHARED EXPECTATIONS TO SUPPORT STUDENT BEHAVIOUR




When schools, families and students work together, we achieve the best outcomes. These partnerships are essential to create school environments that support all students to belong, learn and thrive.

At Avondale Primary School all students are expected to be respectful, safe, and engaged. These behaviours help make our school a place where everyone can achieve their best. As a parent and carer, you play a vital role in helping your child to understand and meet shared behaviour expectations.

Respectful, safe, engaged: shared expectations to support student behaviour

Together, we create safe schools where everyone belongs, learns, and thrives

When schools, families and students work together, we achieve the best outcomes. These partnerships are essential to creating school environments that support all students to belong, learn and thrive. As a parent and carer, you play a vital role in helping your child to understand and meet shared behaviour expectations.

	How students demonstrate expected behaviours	How parents and carers can help	How schools support students to meet behaviour expectations
 Respectful	<p>At school, all students are expected to be respectful, safe, and engaged. These behaviours help make schools a place where everyone can succeed.</p> <p>Students meet these behaviour expectations by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Following staff instructions and school rules → Caring for school property and others' belongings → Using respectful language 	<p>By modelling and encouraging positive behaviour, you help your child build the skills and habits they need to be successful at school. When families and schools work together, students can achieve their best.</p> <p>Parents and carers can help support their child's behaviour by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Knowing the school's rules and supporting them at home → Modelling respectful behaviour in how you speak to and about school staff, families, and others both in person and online → Making use of the school's processes to raise and resolve concerns early 	<p>By teaching and reinforcing positive behaviour, schools ensure positive, safe and fair learning environments with a focus on learning and wellbeing.</p> <p>Schools support families and students by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Teaching and demonstrating school rules and positive behaviour expectations to students → Explicitly teaching, modelling and acknowledging expected respectful behaviour → Engaging collaboratively and positively with all students, parents and carers
 Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Keeping themselves and others safe from harm → Speaking up or seeking help from an adult if they or someone else is being treated unfairly → Only bringing safe and necessary items to school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Working together with staff if your child is having problems at school to understand and resolve the issue → Ensuring your child knows it is okay to ask for help from a trusted adult at school → Ensuring your child stays safe online by talking with them and addressing concerns early 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Having clear policies and procedures to prevent and respond to bullying and keep students safe → Offering additional supports to students proactively, and supporting students to speak up and seek help → Proactively identifying and addressing problems to maintain a physically, socially and culturally safe school environment
 Engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Going to school every day, being on time, and ready to learn* → Taking part, doing their best, and asking for help when they need → Knowing and following the school's policies, including the mobile phone policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Helping your child to attend school every day – every day counts* → Communicating with school staff and working together to support your child's learning and wellbeing → Talking with your child about their day and how they are feeling, and encouraging their learning by noticing their effort and progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Delivering evidence-based, inclusive education that meets the needs of all students → Empowering students to have a say in decisions that affect their learning and school life → Building strong, trusting relationships to ensure all students feel seen, heard and valued

The Department of Education provides resources and support for schools to build positive student behaviour and foster positive relationships between schools, students and families.

Where parents and carers can go for help

If you are concerned about your child's wellbeing, behaviour or safety you can:

- Talk to your child's teacher or identified contact person as the first step and follow the school's process for communicating concerns
- Ask the school for support or a referral – they can connect you with wellbeing staff or specialist services
- Contact the Department of Education's regional office if you need further assistance.

The following resources are also available:

- [Raising Children Network](#) – provides advice for parents of school-aged, pre-teens and teens
- [eSafety Commissioner](#) – Advice for parents and carers to help keep children safe online
- [Report Racism hotline](#) – Find out how to report racism or religious discrimination in schools
- [Bully Stoppers](#) – Advice for parents and carers about bullying

*we know that some students and their families are struggling with school attendance or navigating school refusal - here are some resources that can help - [Attendance and missing school](#) | [vic.gov.au](#), [Home](#) | [Parenting Strategies](#)



For further information, scan the QR code or visit: vic.gov.au/supporting-positive-behaviour-schools



CYBER SAFETY PROJECT – ONLINE SAFETY WEBINARS FOR FAMILIES

We're thrilled to announce our school is continuing to partner with [Cyber Safety Project](#) to offer parents access to the **Cyber Safe Parents 2026 Webinar Series**. These practical, easy-to-understand sessions, available live or on-demand, will provide simple strategies to help families manage online safety, screen time, AI, and digital wellbeing. Pop these important dates into your calendars now:

2026 Topics & Dates:

1. AI & Critical Thinking (Parent/Guardian session) – 20 May
2. Balancing Life & Tech (Parent/Guardian session) – 3 August
3. Cyberbullying & Resilience (Parent/Guardian session) – 27 October

All sessions start at 7.30pm AEDT/AEST.

Can't attend live? Register to receive the recording and resources to watch at a time that suits you.

👉 Register here: <https://cybersafetyproject.com/parents-2026> (do not share this link on social media)



The graphic features a central image of a man and a woman looking at a laptop. Above them is a 'LIVE ONLINE' badge. Below the image are several topic tags: DEVICE SET UP, ONLINE RISKS, APP SAFETY, CRITICAL THINKING, SCREEN TIME, and CYBERBULLYING. A central text box reads 'CYBER SAFETY PROJECT JOIN THE CYBER SAFETY PROJECT FOR EXPERT INSIGHTS cyber Safe Parents 2026 Webinar Series'. To the right is a 'REGISTER HERE' section with a QR code and the URL 'OR bit.ly/Parents-2026'. Below this are four session cards, each with an icon and details: 'CYBER SAFETY AT HOME' (eye icon), 'AI & CRITICAL THINKING' (head icon), 'BALANCING LIFE & TECH' (balance scale icon), and 'CYBERBULLYING & RESILIENCE' (heart icon).

CYBER SAFETY PROJECT

JOIN THE CYBER SAFETY PROJECT FOR EXPERT INSIGHTS

cyber Safe Parents 2026 Webinar Series

DEVICE SET UP ONLINE RISKS APP SAFETY
CRITICAL THINKING SCREEN TIME CYBERBULLYING

RAISING SMART, SAFE & KIND DIGITAL KIDS

The Cyber Safe Parents Webinar Series gives parents practical guidance to confidently support children online. Across four sessions, we turn online safety into simple, realistic actions to raise responsible, resilient and empathetic digital kids.

Can't make it live?
Register anyway for the recording and resources.

REGISTER HERE


OR bit.ly/Parents-2026

CYBER SAFETY AT HOME

When: 10 March 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEDT (45 mins)
For: Family Workshop (Parents & Children)

Covers the basics of online safety at home in clear, easy-to-understand language.

AI & CRITICAL THINKING

When: 20 May 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEST (45 mins)
For: Parents only

Learn what AI really is (and isn't) and why it matters for your family.

BALANCING LIFE & TECH

When: 3 August 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEST (45 mins)
For: Parents only

Tips to reduce conflict and restore healthy balance between screens and real life.

CYBERBULLYING & RESILIENCE

When: 27 October 2026
Time: 7.30pm AEDT (45 mins)
For: Parents only

Simple strategies to help guide young people to manage their wellbeing online.

Our school cares about the safety and wellbeing of our students and their families.

Sometimes things at home or in a relationship are not OK or families can be worried about the wellbeing of their children or young people.

The Orange Door can help you to get the support you need, quickly and easily. It's free and you don't need a referral.

The Orange Door

The Orange Door can help families. They provide support for concerns with parenting, relationships, and family violence.

The Orange Door is a free intake and assessment service for:

- families requiring support for their child or young person's wellbeing or development
- families needing parenting support
- young, isolated, or unsupported families
- individuals and families experiencing family violence
- adults using family violence
- young people using violence in the home.

If you contact The Orange Door, they can help by:

- working with you to identify the help and support you need
- supporting you with the wellbeing and development of your child or young person
- helping you make a safety plan if someone is making you feel unsafe
- connecting you to services that can help like counselling, accommodation, mental health and drug and alcohol services, parenting support groups, services for children, financial help, or legal assistance
- supporting you to access funding for basic living expenses and some other costs
- supporting you to change abusive or controlling behaviour.

Each Orange Door location across Victoria has their own phone number and email. Students and their families can also visit their local Orange Door in person for support, Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm for support. No appointment is needed.

To find your local service, see: [The Orange Door – Support near you.](#)

How schools connect with The Orange Door

Our school might talk to a student and/or their family about The Orange Door. We might encourage them to contact their local Orange Door to get advice and help if needed.

Ideally, a student and/or their family will get in touch with The Orange Door to seek advice and support.

Sometimes, schools might make a referral to The Orange Door without the student or their family's knowledge or consent. Schools will do this if:

- informing a student and/or family increases the risk to their safety or wellbeing
- not linking a student to support increases the risk of their safety and wellbeing.

You can learn more about:

- The Orange Door and how they can help you and your family [here](#).
- how our school keeps our students safe by reading our Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and our Child Safety Code of Conduct on the [school website Policies](#) page

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The purpose of the [Student Dress Code Policy](#) is to outline Avondale Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes. This dress code has been approved by Avondale Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our subcommittees and school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community. Our school will assist families and students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible through avenues including State Schools Relief and Second-Hand Uniform Shop access. Uniform items are also available from Lowes Airport West or [online](#).

Families of students wearing non-compliant uniform items will be reminded of our Student Dress Code policy and asked to wear compliant uniform items. If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a Compass Chronicle will be recorded by the school and posted to families. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the School Improvement Team will follow up with a phone call or meeting, with the school continuing to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Due to safety and security concerns students are not encouraged to wear jewellery to school. These include stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, bracelets and necklaces. Watches that are not internet enabled are permitted, however the school does not take responsibility for these items.

The wearing of cosmetics and fake fingernails at school is not permitted.



2027 FOUNDATION AND YEAR 7 ENROLMENT

Enrolling in Foundation in 2027

Foundation is the first year of primary school in Victoria. Your child can start school if they turn 5 years old before 30 April 2027. School is compulsory once your child turns 6 years old.

Applications to enrol in a Victorian government primary school for 2027:

- Open from Monday 20 April 2026
- Due by Friday 31 July 2026

This year we are also offering an information night for prospective Foundation families on **TUESDAY 16 JUNE from 5pm-6pm**. Please email the school if you would like to attend this session.



Now that your child is turning 5, it's time to think about enrolling them in primary school. The first year of primary school is called Foundation (Prep). Children can start Foundation if they turn 5 years old by 30 April in the year they begin school. School is compulsory for children who are 6 years old.

How to enrol in a Victorian government primary school

Before you apply

- Work out what year your child can start school based on their age
- Find schools and your school zone at findmyschool.vic.gov.au
- Contact primary schools from Term 1 to book a tour (optional)

How to apply

- Foundation (Prep) applications open from the start of Term 2
- Submit your application form by the last Friday in July
- The school will contact you with an outcome in the first 2 weeks of August



Learn more at vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep

The Education Store

TONIA

Enrolling in Secondary School in 2027

If your child is in Grade 6 in 2026 and attends a Victorian government primary school, you will need to:

1. Read the Year 6 to 7 Placement Information Pack for Parents and Carers, which will be provided by your child's primary school by Wednesday 22 April 2026.
2. Use the [Find my School](#) website to locate your local secondary school or preferred government school, and read about [School zones](#) and [Enrolling in school](#).
3. Complete the application form and return it to your child's primary school by Friday 8 May 2026.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Applications are open for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). The CSEF helps eligible families cover the cost of school excursions or in school events, camps and sporting activities.

Payment amounts for eligible families this year have increased to \$400 for primary and secondary school students. This is up from \$154 and \$256 respectively.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Completed CSEF forms need to be submitted to the front office at school by Friday 26 June 2026.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION INSURANCE POLICIES

A reminder that the Department of Education insurance policies, which includes Avondale Primary School, **do not cover:**

- personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students - parents/carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs. Parents/carers can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.
- private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors

ATTENDANCE

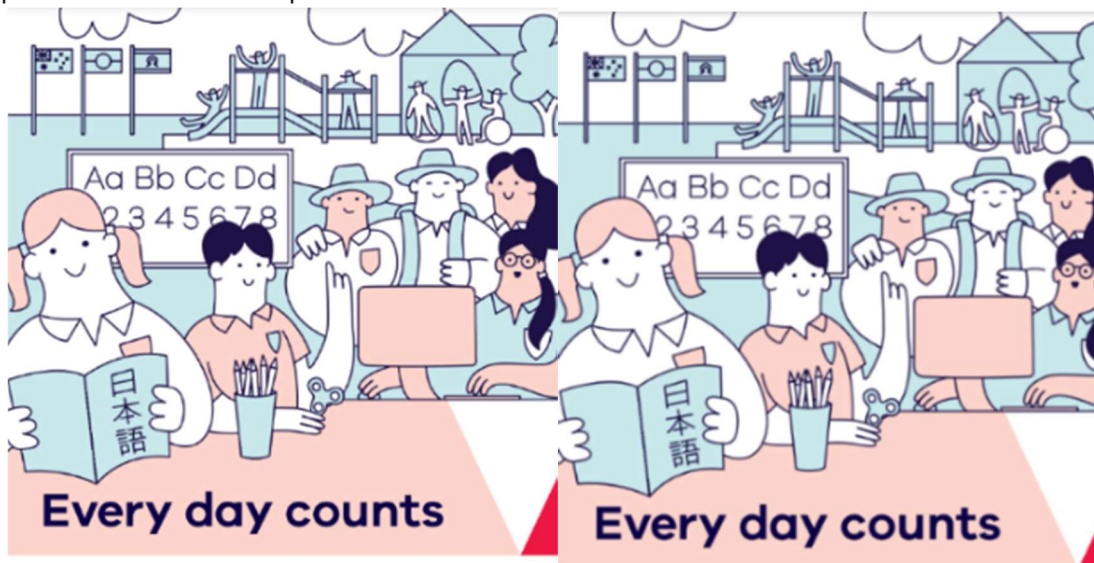
At Avondale Primary School, we prioritise regular school attendance. We work with families to ensure students are in class with their peers and teachers and enjoying all the benefits that brings. Attending school every day means experiencing what counts – the learning, friendship, fun and opportunities that can shape your child's future.

We understand that there are times when your child will need to miss school, however, to ensure minimal disruption to their education, please consider scheduling family holidays or medical/dental appointments outside of school time. If your child is well enough to attend but is worried about friendships, schoolwork or assessment, please encourage them to come to school. Avoiding school can make these feelings worse and can create a negative pattern of behaviour.

If your child is having difficulty attending school, talk to their teacher or a member of the School Improvement Team so we can work together to support them. We know that parents and carers can be juggling challenges daily to get your children to school. If your child must miss school, notify us as soon as possible via Compass.

For more information about the importance of everyday attendance, see [Attendance and Missing School](#). Remember, **Every Day Counts**.

Please log into Compass and address any unexplained absences your child may have. If families need assistance, please send an email to the school email address avondale.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call the office on 9318- 1755. This helps to keep our attendance data up to date and accurate.

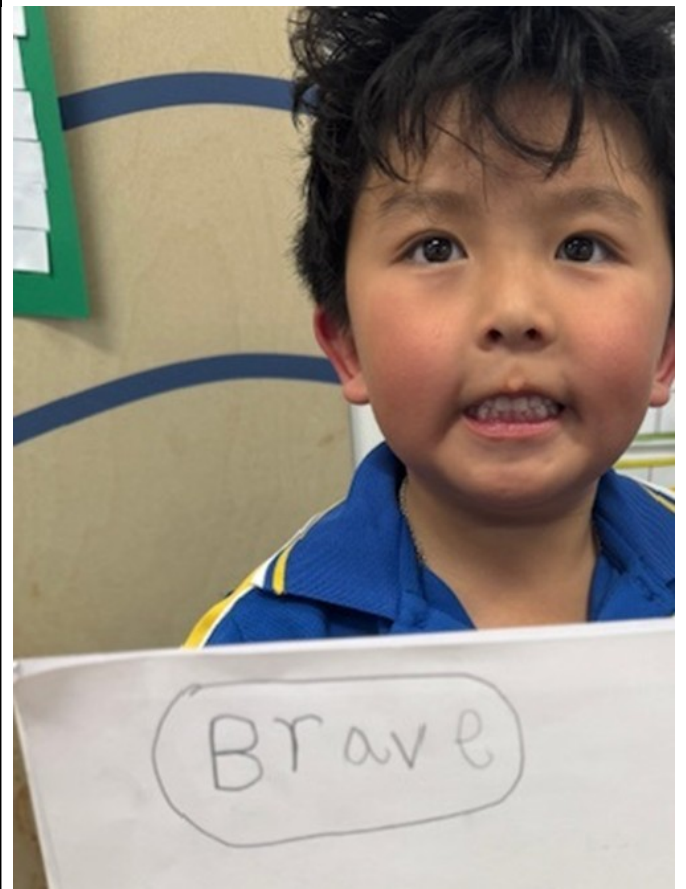
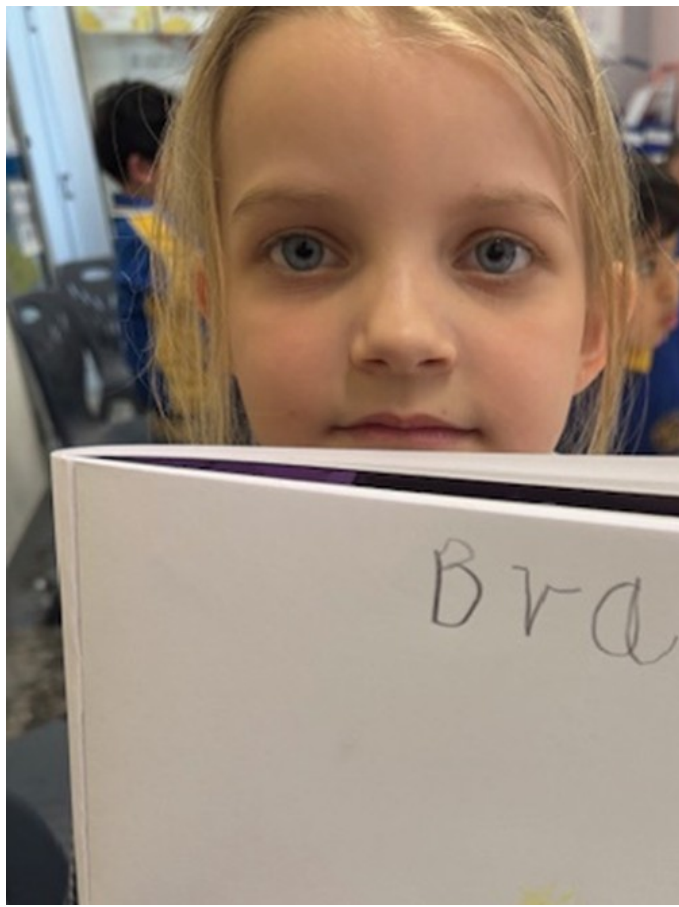


Missing **one day per fortnight** adds up to missing **four weeks** of school a year.

Attending school **every day** means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape their future.

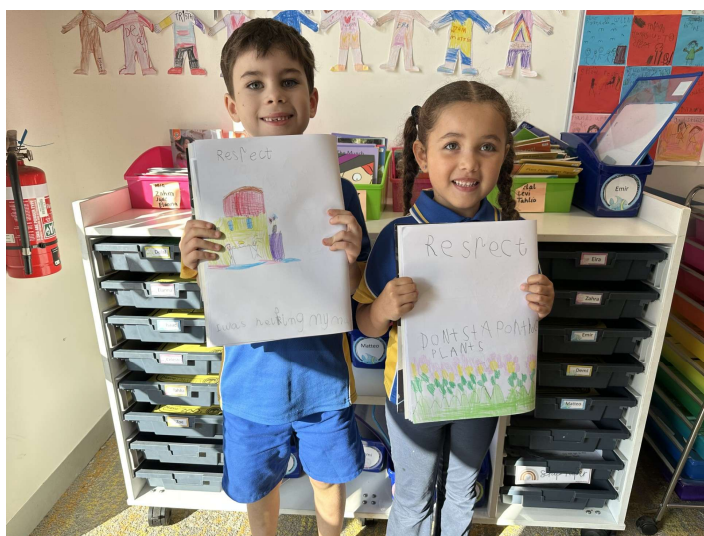
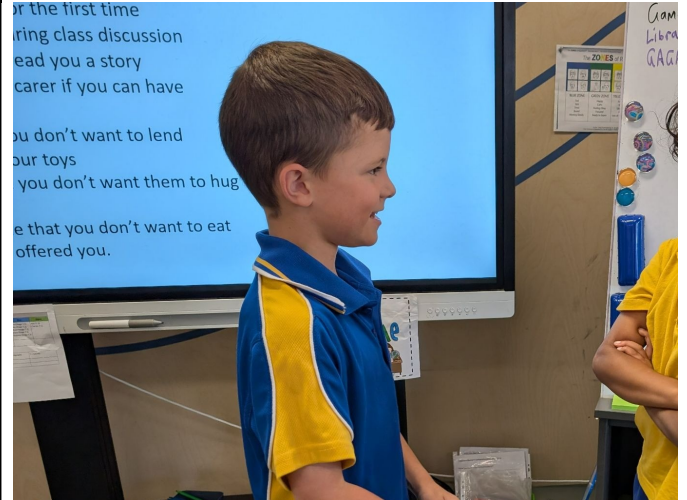
Celebration of Learning – Personal and Social Learning Highlights

Foundation students have been learning about what being brave looks like and how it feels to do something that might be scary. As part of the Respectful Relationships curriculum, we have discussed that it's okay to feel nervous and that being brave means giving things a go even when we feel unsure. Students have shared ideas, listened to stories and explored simple strategies to help them in these moments, such as asking for help or using positive self-talk.



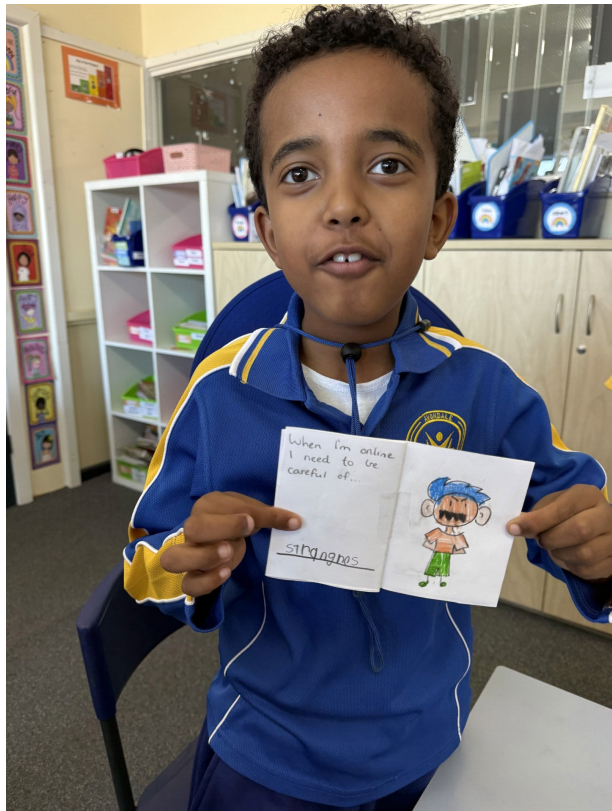
In Grade 1 we have been learning about personal and cultural strengths, especially the strength of **respect**. First, we learnt about Aboriginal cultures and how respect is shown to people and country in these cultures. Then students reflected on how to be respectful in their own lives. In Week 2, we had a great time doing role plays and visual demonstrations of how to be respectful in different situations!

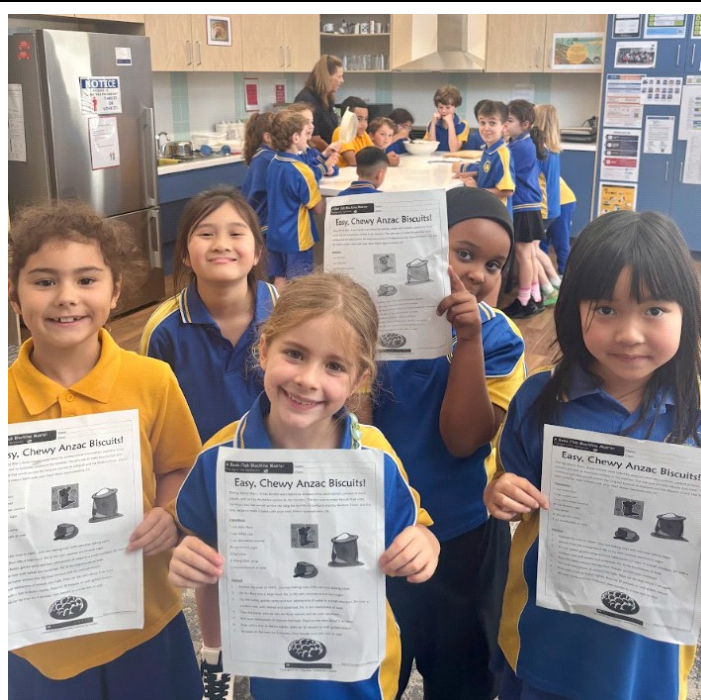
We also learnt about ANZAC Day last week. We reflected on how lots of soldiers had to go to war in the past and how sad it was that lots of them died. We talked about how bad wars are because lots of people die in them. We discussed ways to avoid war in the future and how important it is to treat others with respect.



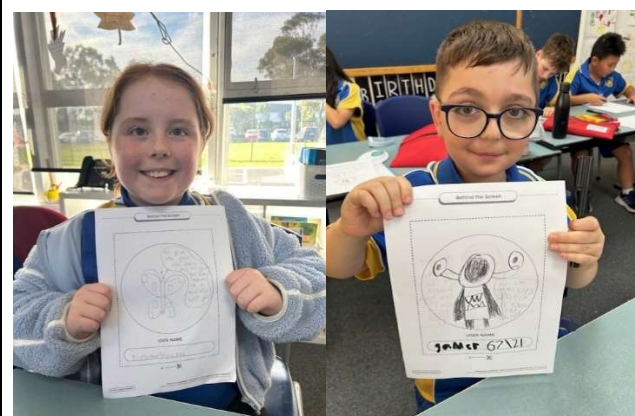
Our Grade 2 students had a great week, reading the story ANZAC Biscuits and learning about why these biscuits were made and sent to soldiers. After listening to the book, we talked about their importance and then made our own! Everyone was proud of their tasty biscuits.

As part of our personal and social learning we have been learning about what respect looks and sounds like in different situations. Students are beginning to identify the strengths that help people show respect to others. They are also learning how to be responsible online and create safe and secure passwords to protect their information online.



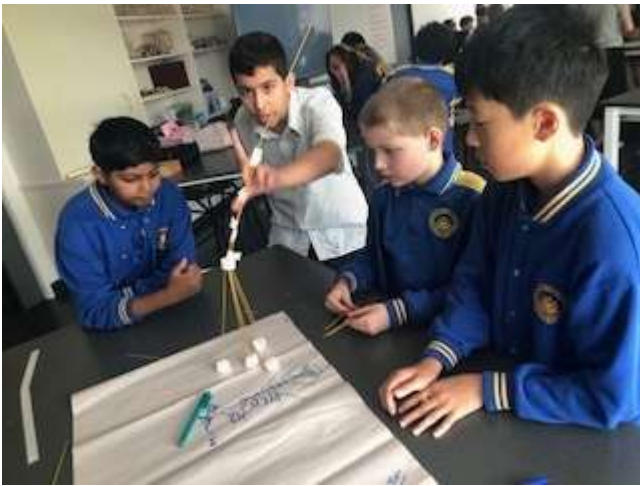


In these first couple of weeks of Term 2, Grade 3/4 students have been exploring personal, private and public online spaces. They engaged in hands-on activities to demonstrate safe online behaviours and practised identifying "red flags" in gaming environments, specifically learning how to respond when someone's identity is unclear. Join the conversation, ask your child to explain the online "red flags" they learned about to help reinforce these safety skills.



This term, **Grade 5/6** students have thoroughly enjoyed excursions to Essendon Keilor College and Rosehill Secondary College engaging in Open Days. They had the opportunity to participate in a range of learning experiences, including sport, performing arts, mathematics, STEM, food technology and visual communication.

This term we have continued exploring cyber safety to support us in maintaining a safe and responsible digital presence.







In Science, our Foundation students have enthusiastically started their new topic, *Observable Properties and Materials*. They explored tools that help us see more clearly, such as, telescopes, binoculars and magnifying glasses, before investigating a range of everyday materials and identifying objects with similar properties.

Students in Grades 1 and 2 have commenced their unit on *Physically Changing Materials*. They described and compared different objects using descriptive language, with a strong focus on developing their scientific vocabulary. Across Grades 3 -6, students have been engaging in pre-assessment tasks to activate their prior knowledge.

Year 3/4 students are exploring the *Properties and Uses of Materials*, conducting investigations to determine whether materials are absorbent or waterproof. They tested a variety of items, including baking paper, foil, cloth, paper towel and sponges, using water droppers.

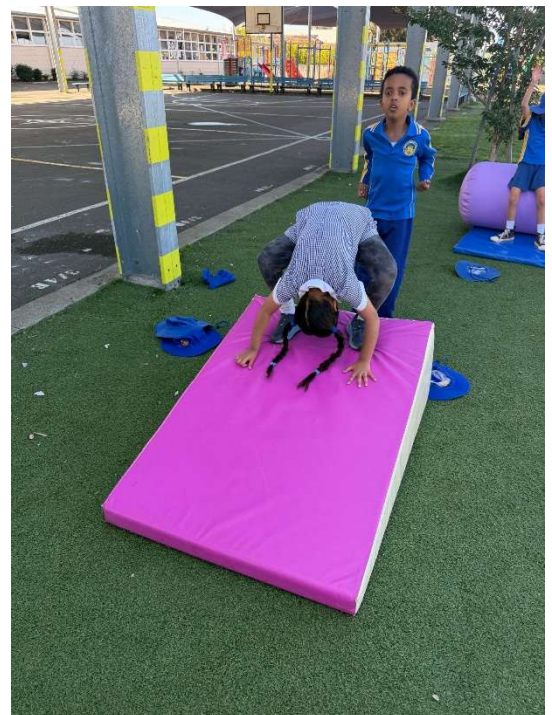
Meanwhile, Grade 5/6 students have started their unit on *Reversible and Irreversible Changes*. They worked collaboratively to identify key glossary terms through an interactive Kahoot quiz, providing a fun and engaging way to assess their prior knowledge.

This week also marked the beginning of our Gardening Club. A big thank you to the students who joined Peter and Mrs Fitcher in the veggie patch to help plant peas. We look forward to watching them grow!



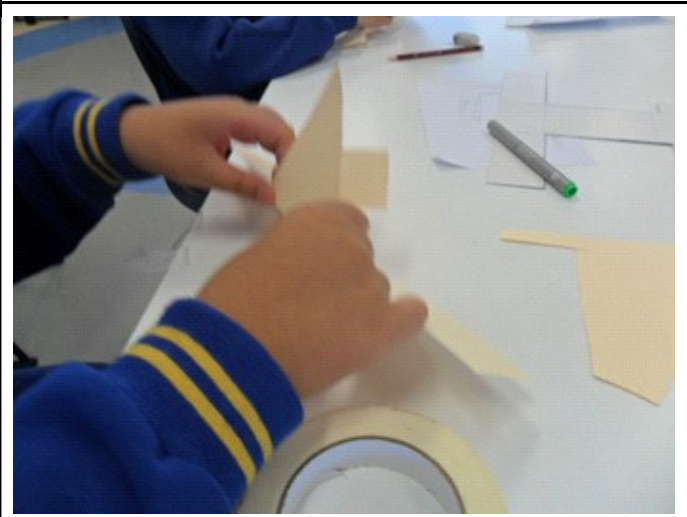
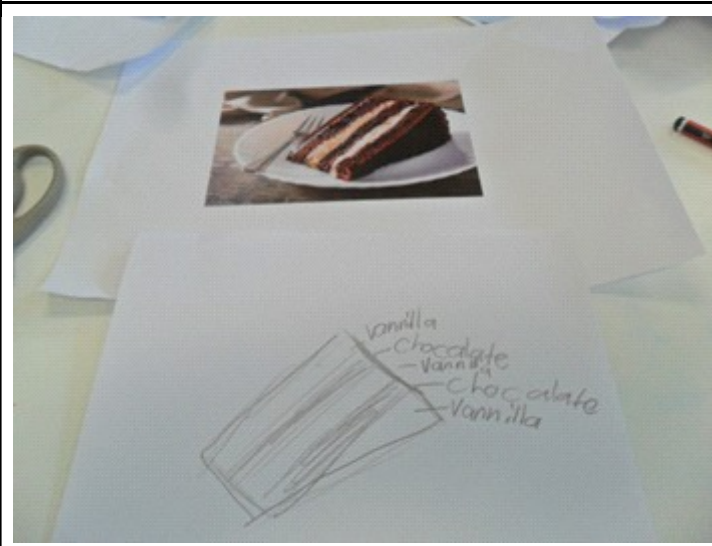
In Physical Education, our Grade 1 and 2 students officially completed their gymnastics unit run by YMCA Gymnastics. The students loved having the opportunity to learn from a specialised coach and enjoyed having the opportunity to learn new skills and utilise a range of equipment.

The Grade 5 and 6 GALA day Tennis Team did an amazing job, displaying sportsmanship, respect and responsibility. The team showed support for each other and Mr Pat and Mrs Fitcher were proud of their efforts. A special mention goes to Anouk and Stephano for their team leadership and to Georgia for putting her hand up to help with equipment.





This term in Visual Arts, the Grade 3/4 students have continued working on their cake slice sculptures. Last term, we explored the work of Wayne Thiebaud, a well-known American artist celebrated for his paintings of food, especially sweets such as donuts, ice cream, muffins, and cake slices. His work inspired this project. Students created a cardboard template to form the shape of their cake slice, then applied plaster gauze to strengthen the sculpture. This week, some classes added a second coat of paint, while others began decorating their pieces with details like hundreds and thousands, strawberries, and marshmallows to make their cake slices look more realistic.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK – Term Two: Week 1

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Mia T	Foundation A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For an amazing start to term 2 and demonstrating determination and a positive attitude when completing all work tasks.
Zoe S	Foundation B	Learning	Zoe, for showing great effort and confidence during Super Spelling. Keep up the fantastic work!
Darcy S	Foundation C	Learning	Great work on your holiday recount 😊
Mila	1A	Learning	Writing an interesting recount about her holiday experiences.
Darion M	1B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For trying your best in all your learning activities this week, especially in reading. Keep up the amazing effort!
Ismail	1C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For your amazing listening and effort this week and every week. Keep up the awesome work Ismail!
Rahyl B	2A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For his fantastic effort sharing his knowledge in our lessons on ANZAC day. Amazing Work!
Albert S	2B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For engaging well in reading mini lessons and improving his understanding of spelling words with double consonants when adding the suffix -ing. Well done Albert!
Kai B	2C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For starting Term 2 with an enthusiastic attitude and a positive mindset
Azaiah	3/4A	Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating your leadership qualities by consistently sharing your understanding of concepts with the class and maturity to acknowledge mistakes then find solutions.
Gerard	3/4B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For a wonderful week of learning, showing all our school values and taking on feedback! You have been a superstar this week! Keep it up
Roshia	3/4C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being such a positive role model within the classroom. You always display our school values, being respectful, responsible and engaged in all learning activities. Keep it up Roshia!
Emily F	3/4D	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always bringing to class a kind spirit and showing enthusiasm toward all learning tasks. A fantastic start to Term 2. Keep it up Emily!
Karsten	3/4E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always being such an active participant in class. You're always having a go and sharing what you know, helping the whole class learn. Keep it up!
Ivy	5/6A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being such a kind and courteous student, willing to share her supplies with others and for focusing so well on her learning goals. Well done Ivy!

Eliana	5/6B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For displaying all of our school values at the EKC excursion this week. You were respectful, responsible and engaged in all learning activities enthusiastically. Well done Eliana!
Zack	5/6C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating outstanding leadership during our excursion to EKC this week. You consistently embodied our school values, showing enthusiasm for learning and collaboration with your peers.
Ryan M	5/6D	Respect Responsibility Learning	For your positive approach to learning this week. You showed great engagement in all the sessions at EKC yesterday.
Georgia	5/6E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always coming to school ready to learn. You consistently demonstrate the school values and are such a good friend to your peers.

SPECIALIST AWARDS – Term Two: Week 1

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Slaine 3/4E	Visual Arts	Learning	For painting a real representation of a slice of cake with icing. Great job, Slaine!
Zylar FA	AUSLAN F-2	Learning	For being an outstanding learner this week by demonstrating his knowledge of 'amusement park' signs and being a great receptive learner. Mark's effort during our warm-up '21' counting game was excellent and showed great skill and precision.
Mark 5/6A	AUSLAN 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being an outstanding learner this week by demonstrating his knowledge of 'amusement park' signs and being a great receptive learner. Mark's effort during our warm-up '21' counting game was excellent and showed great skill and precision.
Arthur P 2C	PE F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always being a respectful and positive learner by following instructions and consistently trying your best. Well Done!
Lachlan 3/4D	PE 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For persisting throughout your cross country trials. I was very proud of your efforts. Well Done!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK – Term Two: Week 2

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Noctis	Foundation A	Respect Responsibility Learning	Well done for displaying kindness to others and working cooperatively during small group activities.

Hinata	Foundation B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always trying his best. Keep it up Hinata!
Ethan L	Foundation C	Learning	For great sounding out when writing! Great work.
Jessica	1A	Respect Responsibility Learning	Focussing on her writing and applying her letter and sound knowledge.
Levi	1B	Respect Responsibility Learning	Amazing effort in sounding out tricky words! You have shown great improvement and confidence when reading!
Tiara	1C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For showing all our school values this week and for her excellent contributions to class discussions. Well done Tiara!
Riley	2A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For her amazing effort in our literacy lessons this week. Great Work!
Oliver M	2B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a great sport and showing strong resilience. Keep it up Oli!
Louis D	2C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For attentive listening and using his learning to write descriptive texts like Margaret Wild.
Danna M G	3/4A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always bringing to class a kind spirit and giving your best toward all learning tasks. Fabulous traits to bring to our classroom!
Kai C	3/4B	Learning	For having a go and answering questions with confidence. Well done!
Mika D	3/4C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being such a positive role model within the classroom. Well done on displaying all our school values; being respectful, responsible and engaged in all learning activities. Keep it up Mika!
Leo B	3/4D	Learning	For your wonderful work when writing your poem, 'Tired'. Your use of figurative language to create mood and imagery was amazing. Keep it up Leo!
Slaine	3/4E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For showing so much enthusiasm during our poetry unit and thinking outside the box. You have a beautiful writing style and it's great to see you trying new things and taking on feedback!
Arvin	5/6A	Respect Responsibility Learning	For making such a fantastic effort as a learner and always trying his best to listen and concentrate. Well done and keep it up!
Sebastian L	5/6B	Respect Responsibility Learning	For being a focused and responsible learner this term. Keep up the great attitude to learning Seb!
Ryan	5/6C	Respect Responsibility Learning	For effectively using elements of Jackie French's writing style to produce your own narrative, <i>Earthquake</i> . Well done Ryan!

Steven V	5/6D	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always showing the school values and being a role model to others in the class.
William	5/6E	Respect Responsibility Learning	For displaying a mature and reflective approach to your learning, taking responsibility for your progress.

SPECIALIST AWARDS – Term Two: Week 2

STUDENT NAME	GRADE	VALUE Respect Responsibility Learning	DEMONSTRATED WHEN
Annika S 5/6D	Visual Arts	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always showing the school values - learning, responsibility and respect in Visual Arts.
Mira 1C	Science F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	Using her senses to explore objects and being able to use words, such as, 'smooth' and 'stretchy' to describe them.
Sebastian B 5/6E	Science 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For his knowledge of scientific processes, such as, heating, freezing and burning and of reversible and irreversible changes.
Amelia H 2C	AUSLAN F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always demonstrating great listening skills and perfectly signing 'amusement park' signs and the 'alphabet' during our Auslan sessions. Amelia is a keen Auslan learner and regularly participates in our class discussions. Well done!
Jasmine H 5/6B	AUSLAN 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For her excellent receptive and expressive abilities in Auslan this week. Jasmine demonstrated her knowledge of 'amusement park' signs during a constructed action group activity; her signing was excellent! She is always focused during our Auslan sessions.
Enaaja	PE F-2	Respect Responsibility Learning	For demonstrating great listening skills and for doing an awesome job during our basketball dribbling practise. Well Done.
Stephano	PE 3-6	Respect Responsibility Learning	For always coming to PE with a positive attitude to try your best. You did a great job during our match practice, well done!



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Mark Smout
marks@vidatennis.com.au
0421 209 408

Nick Opasinov
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0411 224 976




Keilor East LEISURE CENTRE

Kick start a year of swimming with your first


FOUR LESSONS FREE

Back to school, back to swim!
 You'll love everything our program has to offer from day one.
 Offer ends 8 February and limited to the first 100 enrolments.



Scan the QR code to view more information or call Keilor East Leisure Centre to speak to one of our friendly staff on 03 9283 6402.

Promo code 4FREE must be entered at time of sign up.
 Terms & Conditions apply.



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Available for first 100 enrolments only.
 Offer ends 08/02/2026.

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THE **DANCE SOCIETY**

Keilor East
LEISURE CENTRE

Kick start a year of dance with your first

FOUR LESSONS FREE



Back to school, back to dance. Offer ends 8 February.



Scan the QR code to view more information or call Keilor East Leisure Centre to speak to one of our friendly staff on 03 9283 6402.

Promo code **DANCE4FREE** must be entered at time of sign up. Terms & Conditions apply.

THE **DANCE SOCIETY**

THE DANCE SOCIETY

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The Dance Society offers the perfect opportunity for kids to develop their abilities in a mix of hip-hop, jazz, and musical theatre!

Plus, as a parent, you can relax knowing there's no need to worry about costumes or extra stress - just pure enjoyment for everyone!

MEMBERSHIP
\$16.40/Week
On a direct debit

PRE-SCHOOL (3-4 YRS)
WEDNESDAY 4:15PM - 4:45PM
THURSDAY 4:45 PM - 5:15 PM

LEVEL 1 (5-7 YRS)
THURSDAY 4:00PM - 4:45PM
FRIDAY 4:00PM - 4:45PM

LEVEL 2 (8-11 YRS)
TUESDAY 4:00PM - 4:45PM
THURSDAY 5:15PM - 6:00PM

LEVEL 3 (12+ YRS)
SATURDAY 9:00AM - 9:45AM

PLEASE NOTE: Age ranges are only a guide. Levels are based on abilities.

CONTACT

E kelcinfo@movemv.com.au
P 03 9283 6402
A 84 Quinn Grove, Keilor East
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SEASON 2026





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YEAR 7 (2027)

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Maribyrnong College invites talented student-athletes to apply for our select entry program. Sports scholarship applications close Wed 25 Mar.

TERM 1 SPORTS ACADEMY TOUR

WEDNESDAY 25 FEB

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Early Years Series



Practical support for families raising children with developmental delay and disability

In March we are running two free 90-minute online workshops led by facilitators who are parents of children with disability.

Getting Ready for Child Care and Kindergarten

Find out how your child can be supported and included at child care and kindergarten. Learn simple ways to work in partnership with your child's educators.

Mon 5 March & Tues 4 March

First Steps to Support

Find out what help is available for you and your family, including: financial assistance, getting a break and supporting siblings.

Mon 16 March & Tues 17 March

Learn about



- Understanding your child's rights in education
- Reasonable adjustments in the early years
- Financial support options for families
- Self-care and where to go for help

66

Content was helpful and relevant. I walked away with practical resources I could use right away.

99

Scan to register

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educate@acd.org.au

Call 03 9880 7000 or
1800 654 013 regional

<https://bit.ly/EYSmar26CC>



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SATURDAY, 11 APRIL | 11AM

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The ultimate challenge for young soccer players! They'll learn the rules of the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game and develop their skills in passing, dribbling, shooting and more!

INTRO - 60 MINS \$195 FOR 8 WEEKS
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0434 604 406 | 03 9961 6016

Kids Soccer Program For 3 - 12 YO

Term 2 stars 9th May 2026
@ Caroline Springs & Aintree

LIMITED OFFER:
Complimentary Uniform Pack (Valued at \$65)
First 30 Enrolments Only

Refer a friend or sibling to unlock \$10 term discount for both!



No Scoreboards
We measure success in high-fives



Confidence First
Building social bravery on and off the pitch



Have a go!
No pressure, just pure play for an hour

Tiny Comets (3-4YO)	Building first steps of social confidence
Shooting Stars (5-6YO)	Mastering ball control and "sticky feet"
Bright Blasters (7-8YO)	Discovering teamwork and passing precision
Galactic Strikers (9-10YO)	Unleashing creative skills and 1v1 bravery
Supernova Elite (10Y+)	Developing tactical logic and leadership


Questions? Speak with us: 0434 604 406 | hello@brightstarsoccer.com.au

\$190.00 per term (8 weeks)
60-minute session. Limited spaces available.

Scan the QR code to request a call-back 

BRIGHTSTARS SOCCER Bright Stars Soccer
hello@brightstarsoccer.com.au
brightstarsoccer.com.au
03 9961 6016 | 0434 604 406

Term 2 Enrolment Form | Starting 9th May 2026

Scan this QR code to complete enrolment. 

Questions? Speak with us at **0434 604 406**

Schedule	Caroline Springs St. George Preca Primary School 22-48 Lancefield Dr, Caroline Springs Saturday mornings from 9th May	Aintree Aintree Primary School 11 Timbertop Parade, Aintree Sunday mornings from 10th May
Tiny Comets (3-4Y)	10 am - 11am	10 am - 11am
Shooting Stars (5-6Y)	10 am - 11am	10 am - 11am
Bright Blasters (7-8Y)	10 am - 11am	10 am - 11am
Galactic Strikers (9-10Y)	10 am - 11am	10 am - 11am
Supernova Elite (10Y+)	10 am - 11am	10 am - 11am

Reserve your spot today! \$190.00 per term (8 weeks)
Follow the instructions on the enrolment form & pay online to reserve a spot or, transfer the term fee of \$190.00 (8 weeks) to the following details
BSB: 067-873 Account #: 2247-7380 Account: Bright Stars Academy
Reference: Child's Name

WE NEED PLAYERS!

We are currently looking for a couple of players in the following age groups

- Under 8 boys and girls born in 2019, 2020, 2021
- Under 12 Boys born in 2015 and 2016

Please share the word, so we can make sure all teams are ready to start the season 🏀



Contact Charli-Rose by email
AvondaleRaidersbc@gmail.com for more information



Winter Cross Country at Essendon Little Athletics

- Season commences Saturday 3rd May
- Ages 5 to 17
- All abilities welcome

Register now: www.lavic.com.au/centres/essendon
or email us: elacmemberships@gmail.com



Need something extra for your child to improve their swimming?*



*Must be aged 8 - 15yo & be able to swim 25m
Find out more: www.footscraywaterpolo.com

Why not give water polo a go?



Saturdays in May & June 2026
2 - 3:30pm

VU Aquatic & Fitness Centre - Footscray



FREE COME AND TRY
AUSKICK 2026



Friday 24th April & 1st May AGES 4-8

5pm-6pm

AHFC Canning Reserve
Avondale Heights

GOOD CLEAN FUN



REGISTER NOW
AUSKICK 2026 SEASON
STARTING FRIDAY 8th MAY



<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/52ca47>

#WeAreAvondale