

## Important Dates

### Graduation RC

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
Time TBC

### Graduation LC

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
Time TBC

### Last day Term 4

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
2pm Finish - RC LC

### SSG Day

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

## 2022 Term Dates

### **Term 1:**

1<sup>st</sup> February to 7<sup>th</sup> April

### **Term 2:**

26<sup>th</sup> April to 24<sup>th</sup> June

### **Term 3:**

11<sup>th</sup> July to 16<sup>th</sup> September

### **Term 4:**

3<sup>rd</sup> October to 20<sup>th</sup> December

## Uniform Shop RC

Monday 2:45pm – 3:45pm

Tuesday 8:30am – 9:30am

Thursday 2:45pm – 3:45pm

### **Reservoir Campus**

16-18 Gertz Avenue

RESERVOIR VIC 3073

Phone: (03) 9462 5990

Fax: (03) 9460 8058

### **Lalor Campus**

2 - 4 Lyndon Street

LALOR VIC 3075

Phone: (03) 9464 3480

Fax: (03) 9464 4713



## From the Principal

### Welcome

### **Enrolments Increasing for 2023**

Planning for the 2023 school year is well under way, with predictions of our school numbers forwarded to the department. At this stage we are planning for a moderate increase in student numbers. Next year we will see an increase of 30 students across the school.

### **Attendance**

It is important the parents/carers continue to let the school know when your child is away from school stating the reason and the date.

Additionally, whilst it can sometimes be challenging to get students to school before 9am, and there are times we are late for numerous reasons, it is important that this is not the norm. This is often when the children are settled and instruction begins, messages for the day, preparation for outings etc. Often it can be quite challenging for the child to enter the class, when their peers are all organised or already attending an activity. I thank you for your anticipated support in this matter. Please speak to the class teacher or one of the leaders if you are having difficulties.

### **COMPASS**

In 2023 Northern School for Autism will be moving to the COMPASS platform. We will be introducing COMPASS modules slowly throughout the year.

## Northern School for Autism Newsletter

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### Sun Smart

Northern School for Autism is a Sun Smart school. Staff and students are required to wear hats outside during Terms 1 and 4. Please make sure your child has a hat at school. The staff are aware some students will not tolerate wearing a hat – we will work hard to try and teach the students to wear a hat. The ambient temperature and UV rating will be used to determine the level of risk to students. UV ratings of 3-5 are moderate risk and 6-7 are high risk, therefore full protection should be undertaken whenever UV levels reach 3 or more. Students should be indoors when the UV reaches 8+ and/or the temperature is over 35 degrees Celsius. Parents are encouraged to apply a SPF30 (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant to their child before school. The Sun Smart policy will be invoked between mid-August and April 30th.

### **Child safety and wellbeing: information for families and the school community**

The Victorian Government has announced new [Child Safe Standards](#) to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Northern School for Autism has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on the school website under the Governance tab - <https://www.northernautism.vic.edu.au/policies-protocols>

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Pamela Mathieson, Principal on 94625990 or [pamela.mathieson@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:pamela.mathieson@education.vic.gov.au)

Pamela Mathieson

Principal

#### NSA SCIENCE FACT



Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2-6 years of age.

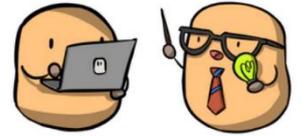
# Room 16

Room 16 students have greatly enjoyed going on a variety of excursions this year including excursions to the Melbourne Zoo, Coles in Reservoir Square, the Aquarium, Latitude, Bounce Trampoline Park, Uni Hill DFO shops, Reservoir Leisure Centre for the Swimming program, Westfield Plenty Valley Shopping Centre, local walks to the local coffee shop, and Gymnastics excursions at Macleod YMCA, where they had fun exploring a new environment, running around the exciting space, jumping on the trampolines, swinging into the foam pit and playing on the various gym equipment! We have also enjoyed the Science incursions in our Multipurpose Room where the students sat and watched earth and space projections on the walls and ceiling of the portable inflatable dome, and greatly enjoyed the chemical science experiments with a lot of sensory aspects - especially liking the dry ice foam bubble experiments! The Insects and the Farm Animal Nursery incursions were also highlights. Weekly trips to the STEAM building have shown a lot of student interest in the immersive experiences of the VR (Virtual Reality) room, BeeBots, OSMO, interactive Math and English activities on the touchscreen Smart TV. Interactive lifeskills stories, Art, cooking, Music, the 'Attention Autism' program, and movement based sessions such as bike riding sessions have also been some of the favourite activities amongst our students!

This term we have welcomed two new staff, Katrina and Eva. We are looking forward to our remaining excursions, and are excited for the learning, development and fun that our classroom members will have during the rest of the year! 😊

# LC14

LC14 love Karate. Every Tuesday in term 4, students complete warm up activities, precision punching / kicking tasks and test their strength with combat equipment. Not only do students gain valuable physical skills, the sensei will also teach the values of honor, respect, tradition and altruism.



In the latter half of term 3, LC14 and LC11 went to the Melbourne Aquarium. Students saw some amazing creatures. Highlights may have been the jellyfish, sharks and sea horses.

LC14 students were treated to a day trip at Blackwood Outdoor Education Centre early in term 4. During this outing, students trekked the great outdoors, often seeing old mine shafts and other remains from the Gold Rush era. The concluding activity was an archery session where students had to three attempts to get a 'bulls eye'. The legendary Quan hit his target in two shots!

During mid-term 4, LC14 joined forces with LC9 on an excursion to the Botanic Gardens. Students potted some plants, made some potpourri and took in the serenity of the rainforest section. A fun time was had by all.

# Norris Bank

## Satellite Rooms

Students across the three satellite rooms have had a great start to the final term of the year. The sunshine and warmer days have been embraced by students and staff.

All of the classes have continued weekly trips to Bounce, where they have enjoyed jumping and utilising the different areas.

A trip to Kew Traffic School gave students the opportunity to ride bikes and scooters and dress up in different uniforms.

Students have been working on their reading and comprehension through explicit sessions, with many students becoming more competent and confident readers.

Robotics and coding sessions have continued to run in the STEAM building at the Reservoir Campus, as well as in the newly set up STEAM room at Norris Bank.

# Communication Accessible Schools

It has been a busy start to the term for Later Years A!

Classroom teams have been working hard to make all classrooms communication accessible and to ensure all students have an opportunity to communicate at all times.

Students are supported to use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) both within the school and out in the community. Students are assisted to use AAC for a range of functions, such as to greet, order food, follow instructions, make requests, ask and answer questions and comment.

We acknowledge that communication looks different for everyone, and work hard to be effective communication partners by providing lots of opportunities for students to communicate in their own way.

# Christmas Raffle Donations

NSA is having it's annual Christmas Raffle!  
The raffle will be drawn on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Please support the school by sending in any donations for our Christmas hampers.

Things you might want to donate:

- Christmas items
- Chocolates
- Stationery
- Books
- Toys

Items must be new.

Please send in all donations by **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

