Northern School for Autism

Friday 13 November 2026

www.northernautism.vic.edu.au

Newsletter

Important Dates

RC COLOUR FUN RUN
Wednesday 18th November

LC COLOUR FUN RUN
Thursday 19th November

PARENT COFFEE MORNING
Friday 4th December

Reservoir Year 6 Graduation
Thursday 10th December

Lalor Year 2 Graduation
Monday 14th December

Last Day for Students
Thursday 17th December
School finishes at 2 pm
(afternoon buses will arrive 1 hr earlier at pick-up)

SSG Day
Friday 18th December
Student Free Day
No Buses Running

2027

Term 1 Commences:
Friday, January 29, 2027

Reservoir Campus
16-18 Gertz Avenue,
RESERVOIR VIC 3073
Phone:(03)9462 5990

Lalor Campus
35 Duncan Road,
LALOR VIC 3075
Phone: (03) 9464 3480

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear NSA Families,

The End of Year Is Fast Approaching!

It is hard to believe just how quickly Term 4 is moving along! Before we know it, we will be at the end of another school year. As always, this is an incredibly busy time at Northern School for Autism with a huge number of events, excursions, celebrations and activities taking place across the school.

We are working hard to ensure that communication is timely, clear and consistent so that all families are aware of what is happening and have plenty of time to prepare and organise themselves.

End-of-Year Graduation Celebrations

As we approach the end of the school year, we also look forward to celebrating the achievements, growth and milestones of our Middle and Senior School students.
Our graduation ceremonies are very special occasions, providing an opportunity to acknowledge the hard work, dedication and progress of our students as they prepare for their next chapter.
Our Graduation dates are as follows:
Year 6 Graduation: Thursday 10 December
Senior School Graduation: Monday 14 December

Attendance

Even though we are coming to the end of year, attendance is still important.

It is vital that every student attend school as much as possible. Every Day Counts. Sometimes, we lose sight of the number of days that our children do not come to school and, without realising it, these days quickly add up. The impact of missed learning time can be significant; a student absent for an average of 20 days per year for 13 years will miss out on 52 weeks of learning over the course of their school life. Please reach out to your child's teacher or your relevant Principal Class Officer if you need support in improving your child's attendance. The Leadership Team will be monitoring student attendance data, and who work with those students, who have been identified as being severely chronically absent or chronically absent attendees regularly, will be in touch with you in the coming weeks if your child is at risk of chronic absences.

Pamela Mathieson

Principal

EVERY DAY COUNTS ...

A day here or there doesn't seem like much but ...

When your child misses just	that equals...	which is....	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...	This means the best your child can achieve is ...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks of school	Nearly 1½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks of school	Over 2½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks of school	Over 5 years of learning of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	24 weeks of school	Over 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed ...



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS ...

Lost minutes mean lost learning!

When your child misses just	that equals...	which is....	and therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is ...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning time each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ year of school
20 minutes a day	I hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
1/2 an hour a day	½ a day of learning each week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1½ years of learning of learning
1 hour a day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year	Over 2½ years of learning

Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day...

School starts at
9.00 AM
DON'T BE LATE!





Good time keeping means making sure that your child is at school and ready to learn BEFORE the school bell rings!



MIDDLE YEARS A 21A &B

As we approach the end of another busy and exciting year, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful progress and achievements of our Middle Years students.

Throughout Term 4, students have enjoyed a range of engaging experiences, including our Halloween celebrations, where they participated in trick-or-treating around the school, and a visit from the animal farm. Alongside these exciting events, students have continued to develop their skills and confidence through meaningful classroom learning experiences..

It has been wonderful to see our students continue to grow, build their independence & celebrate their successes throughout the year.

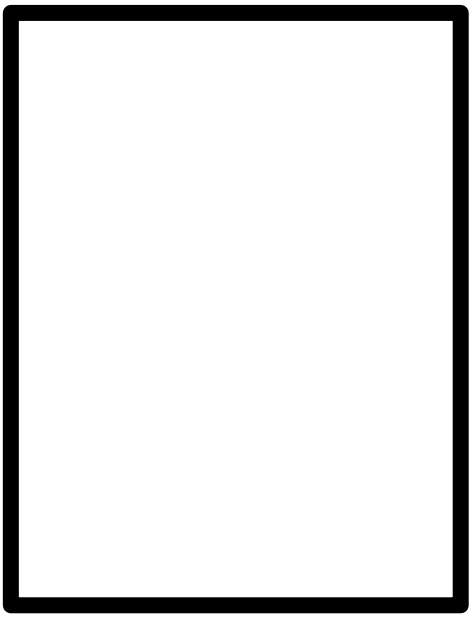
As we wrap up 2026, I would like to thank our dedicated staff and families for their ongoing support!

Room 18

As the year comes to an end, the students of Room 18 have swum, walked, bowled and danced their way through another fantastic year at NSA.



All of the students in Room 18 have worked incredibly hard to build positive and respectful friendships, building their social awareness, tolerance, and resilience with the support of their teachers and therapists.



Across the year, students learned to swim and about safety around water, explored and navigated the local streets and parks within the community, danced to the song 'Holding Out for a Hero' for the school concert, and most importantly, achieved their goals again and again!

Some favourite sessions of the students in Room 18 include, cooking, sport, local walk, reading groups, boardgames, science, music and art.



Before the year ends, Room 18 students are excited for the NSA's Colour Fun Run!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back for Term 4! We settled straight into our learning, enjoying new experiences and continuing to make progress towards our individual goals.

In Numeracy, we explored different ways of skip counting, measurement and patterns. In Literacy, we enjoyed reading a variety of stories and developing our understanding by answering questions and sharing our thoughts.

Our Life Skills activities were full of hands-on learning. We learnt how to plant and care for plants, as well as develop our laundry skills by learning to use the washing machine, hang out clothes and fold them. We also enjoyed restocking items in the staffroom, or Woolworths sorting, taking pride in helping to keep our school environment organised and in running.

Some of our favourite moments were our bus trips to Don Bosco, local parks and McDonald's, where we had opportunities to enjoy outings and practise our skills in the community.

Throughout the term, we continued to build our understanding of expected behaviours in the community, following instructions, being safe and developing greater independence. It has been lovely to see everyone grow in confidence, embrace new experiences and become more adaptable to change. We are proud of the progress made and look forward to continuing this journey of learning and growth!

LC21

LC15 has been working *so* hard academically that our calculators are smoking and our pencils are worn down to the erasers. Nobel Prizes, here we come!
We've been participating in PEERS with Esther, mastering the fine art of socialising. We now know exactly how to chat without accidentally bringing up our weirdest hobbies in the first five seconds.
We jumped into the kitchen with Jane to whip up some culinary masterpieces. We can confidently report that the food was delicious, and we didn't burn much.
In woodwork with Anatoli, we've been building models, sanding, and hammering. We are officially handy, highly dangerous with a tape measure, and making sawdust look fashionable.
We took to the skies at Bounce! Some of us defied gravity, some of us perfected the "accidental starfish" landing, and all of us left with zero energy left.
We climbed aboard a beautiful yacht for some sailing with Making Waves. We looked incredibly majestic, felt like high-seas pirates, and thankfully, nobody had to walk the plank.

We've been clocking up serious steps, exploring local walks and sites by visiting:

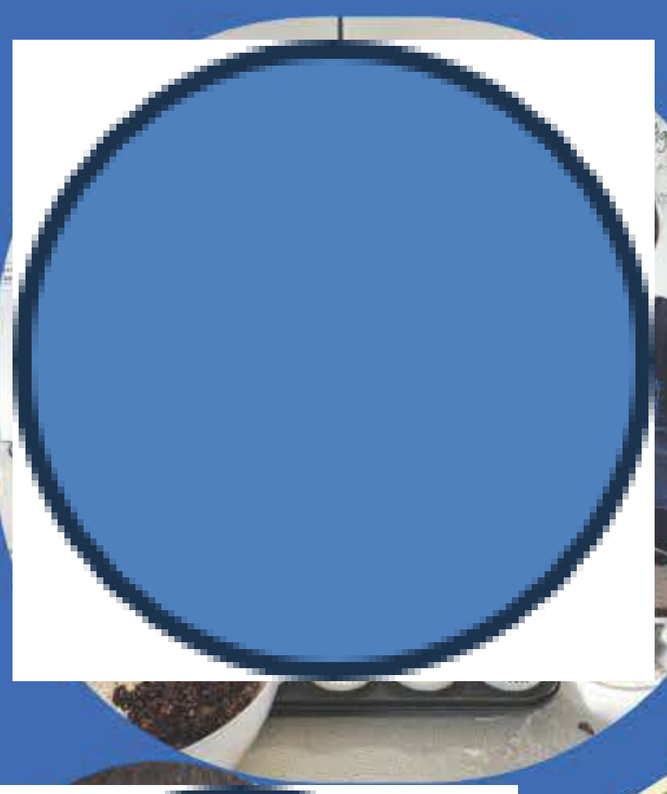
- **All Abilities Park in Mill Park,** testing the swings and slides for scientific research purposes, obviously.
- **Jack Roper Reserve**, enjoying the scenery and nature at its finest.
- **Epping Plaza,** working hard on our critical life skill known as "window shopping and smelling the food court."
- **Wyncity Bowling,** where we had a lot of strikes, a few spares, and a highly impressive number of gutter balls that we claim were intentional.
- **Tullamarine Airport,** where we headed to the back of the airport to watch the planes take off and land. We waved at the passengers, though we aren't sure if they waved back.

Back in the classroom, we've officially become farmers by planting capsicums. We are currently staring at the dirt daily, waiting for them to grow. If all goes well, the fruits of our labour can go home by next month.
And currently everyone is excited about NSA's Got Talent. We are practising singing and dancing with a few divas in the mix and look forward to performing.

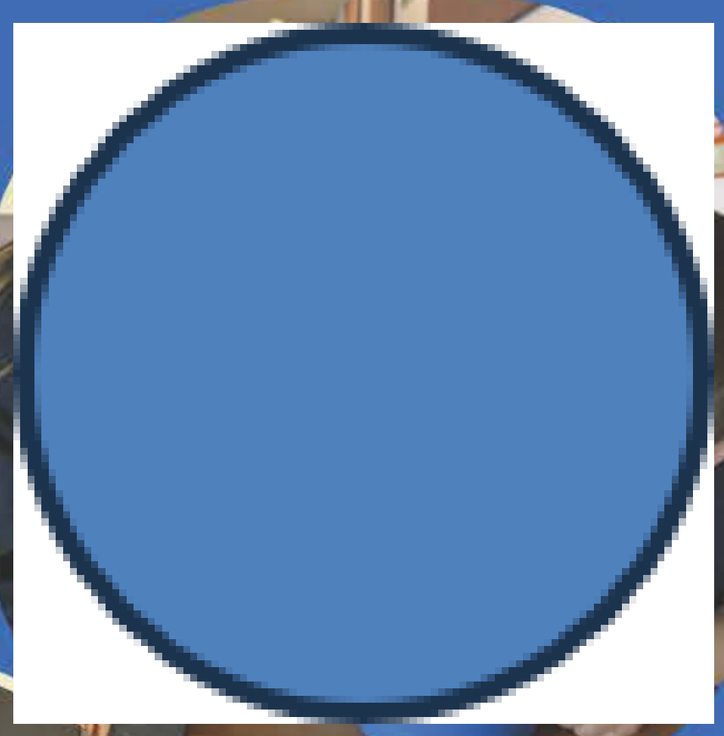
COOKING & KITCHENS AT RESERVOIR CAMPUS

Cooking is an important everyday life skill that Occupational Therapy supports students to develop thereby promoting independence and participation in daily routines. Through cooking sessions, students have hands-on opportunities to practice a range of functional skills, including following instructions, sequencing, fine motor coordination, food preparation, making choices and exploring different foods.

Our school has a dedicated student kitchen environment, well equipped to support group cooking sessions. The space includes ovens, microwaves, ample bench space and a practical layout that allows students to participate in cooking activities in a structured and supported environment. Additionally, each classroom has access to some cooking resources of their own, allowing staff to run smaller, classroom-based cooking sessions in order to provide opportunities for students to practice and develop these important skills regularly.

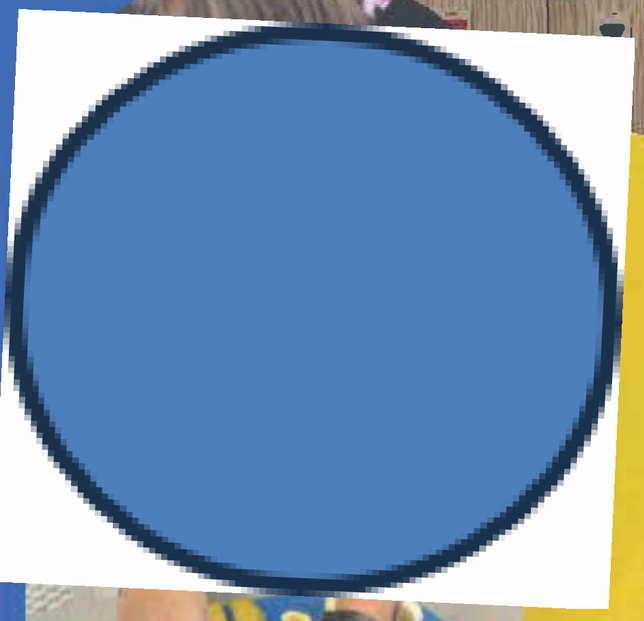
















Christmas Raffle

DONATION REQUEST!

NSA is having its annual Christmas Raffle
Every student will go into the draw to win!

Donation ideas – New items only please

Games | Books | Toys | Stationery
Puzzles | Chocolate | Playdough

PLEASE SEND ALL DONATIONS BY 04/12/2026

COFFEE Morning

PARENTS & CARERS



Join us

COFFEE, TEA & SNACKS PROVIDED

Lalor

Friday

04/12/26

@ 9:30am

Northern School for Autism - Multipurpose Room