

Newsletter

Important Dates

Last Day Term 3:

Thursday 17th September
3:00pm Finish

SSG Day:

Friday 18th September
No Classes & Buses
Running
Student Free Day

Term 4

Important Dates:

First day of Term 4:

Monday 5th October

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

Hi Parents and Carers,

And just like that, we've made it to the end of Term 3! It has been another big term at Northern School for Autism, with students and staff focused on their learning, taking on new challenges and making the most of the many opportunities across the school.

It has been great to see the continued progress our students are making, not only in their learning but also in their confidence, independence and connections with others.

As we head into the final term of the year, there is still plenty to look forward to. For now, however, it is time for everyone to take a well-earned break, recharge and enjoy some quality time with family and friends over the upcoming term break.

Social Media Laws

The Australian Government is protecting young Australians at a critical stage of their development through world-first social media age restrictions. These restrictions are now in effect.

As of 10 December 2025, age-restricted social media platforms are required to take reasonable steps to prevent Australians under the age of 16 from creating or maintaining an account.

According to eSafety, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, Twitch, X, YouTube, Kick and Reddit are among the platforms subject to these age restrictions. This list may change in the future.

The social media age restrictions aim to protect young Australians from pressures and risks that users can be exposed to while using social media accounts. These risks can arise from design features that encourage users to spend more time online, as well as content that may negatively affect their health and wellbeing.

Please note: Parents cannot override the law or give formal permission for their child under the age of 16 to hold an account on age-restricted platforms.

The law was introduced to help protect children from potential online harm, including cyberbullying, inappropriate content and negative impacts on mental health and wellbeing.

Northern School for Autism is committed to fostering a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment where staff, students and parents work together to prevent all forms of disrespectful and unkind conduct. By supporting and following the social media restrictions and laws, our school community can help promote safe and responsible online practices and set a positive example for all current and future Northern School for Autism students.

Parent Payment Policy 2027

Our School Council is proud of the excellent quality of our facilities and resources available for our students to enjoy and few schools match the numerous programs we offer to cater for students' needs and interests. However, these do not come without extra costs.

The Parent Payment Policy for 2027 will be emailed with the Newsletter via Compass or can be found on our website www.northernautism.vic.edu.au/policies-protocols.

This is provided in advance to enable families to plan or budget accordingly. We are not asking for payments until 2027.

Curriculum Contributions and Other contributions are voluntary and are tax deductible as NSA is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient.

If you are unable or choose not to make financial contributions, your child will not be disadvantaged or denied access to the resources required to deliver the curriculum.

Northern School for Autism would like to thank all parents who have contributed towards the school this year.

If you have yet to contribute this year and would like to do so, it can be done via Compass or by contacting our Finance Manager, Christine Jacob.

Thank you

Pamela Mathieson
Principal

Room 14

It has been a busy and exciting time in our classroom!

We were very excited to take part in the School Concert, performing "Magic" by Bob. Our students worked hard practising and were fantastic performers!

We have also been busy exploring Science, conducting fun experiments including our lemon volcano, fizzy chemistry and making putty. There were lots of opportunities to investigate, observe and get messy!

Our classroom has also been cooking up a storm! Students enjoyed making pizza muffins, fruit skewers and fairy bread, practising important skills such as following instructions, taking turns and developing independence.

We have loved seeing our students learn, explore, create and have fun together!

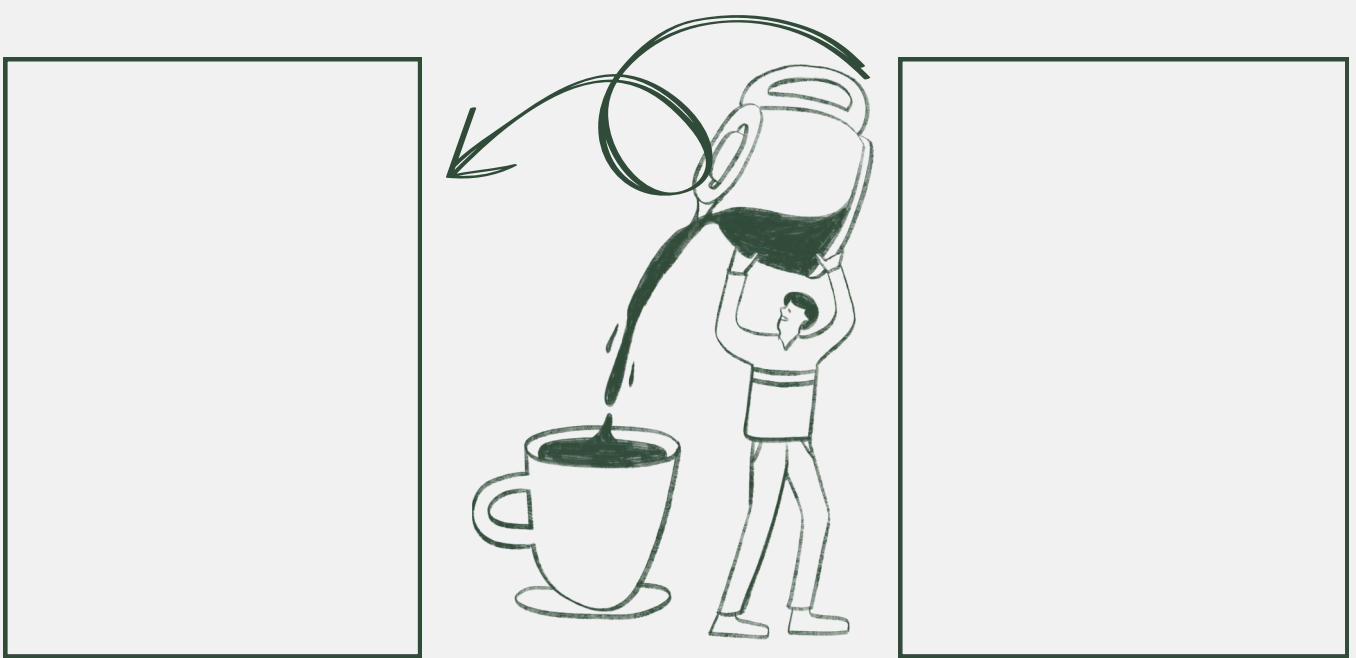
Room 28

Room 28's year has been filled with great fun and appreciation for the friendships we have made throughout this year.

We really enjoy music, art and science sessions as we broaden our knowledge of different types musical and art concepts and engage with a variety of experiments.

We also love playing outside with our friends! We play tag, race each other on foot, on the bike and on scooters, and we also like to engage in pretend play acting out characters and stories.

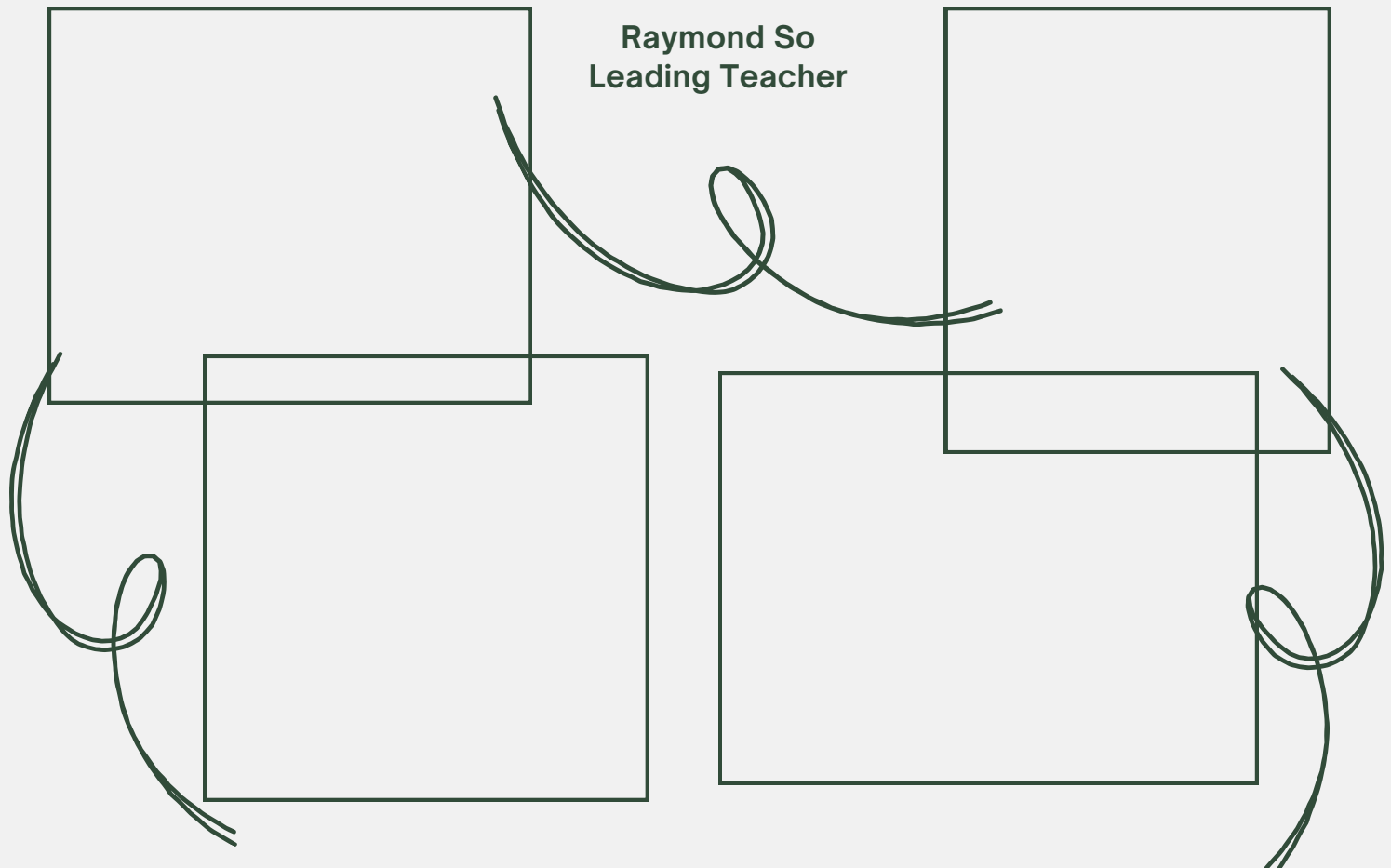
We also love to explore the equipment in the STEAM building; this year we have learnt to use dash-and-dots to perform different functions and even play a xylophone.



FOOD SAFETY + ESPRESSO COURSE

On 4 September '26, Lalor students took part in an exciting Food Safety Handling and Espresso course. The day began with an interactive slide presentation that explained food safety in simple, student-friendly ways, followed by a hands-on worksheet to help everyone follow along. The real fun started in the MPR hall, where students moved through each step of making coffee: grinding the beans, loading the machine, waiting for the shot to pour, steaming milk with the wand, and combining it to create their very own café-style coffee. They even learned how to make hot chocolate using the school's new coffee machine. It was great to see how much our students enjoyed the course and how many opportunities they have to build new skills. Today showed just how bright their futures can be. The session wrapped up with students finishing their worksheets and thanking our instructor, Andrew, for an engaging day of learning.

Raymond So
Leading Teacher





As we reflect on the past three terms, we are excited to share some of the wonderful experiences and achievements of LC12.

Community Adventures: Our local walks have been a highlight, with students enjoying trips to nearby food spots, collecting their meals and relaxing together at the park. These outings have been a great way to build independence and community skills.

Building Work Skills: Some students have gained valuable real-life work experience at Brunswick Industries, developing workplace skills and confidence. Our Coles order-packing program has also provided opportunities to practise teamwork, responsibility and following workplace-style tasks.

Music and STEAM: During weekly music sessions, students have explored different instruments and followed structured lessons. This term, we have also begun an exciting STEAM program, giving students opportunities to explore hands-on learning and creativity.

Active Lifestyle: Students have enjoyed morning exercise sessions, completing laps and exploring different equipment. Some have also participated in interschool sports, including basketball, AFL and netball, enjoying friendly competition with other schools.

It has been a fantastic few terms of learning, growth and new experiences for LC12. We are very proud of our students and look forward to more exciting adventures ahead!

Last week, we rolled out the red carpet for Reservoir's 'Red Carpet Ready' concert! It was a wonderful celebration of the incredible talents, creativity and hard work of our students and staff.

A massive congratulations to all our students and staff who participated and helped make the concert such a memorable success. We are so proud of everyone who took to the stage and helped bring our Hollywood-inspired theme to life!

Thank you to our wonderful families and school community for joining us and supporting our students.

Please enjoy some of our favourite 'Red Carpet Ready' photos from the day!

LALOR STEAM NEWS

Our students at Lalor have had a wonderful term of hands-on learning, creativity and discovery through Science Week and STEAM.

This year's National Science Week theme, "*Seeds of Science: Nurturing Knowledge for All*," encouraged students to explore how curiosity, ideas and scientific knowledge can grow through investigation and collaboration. Throughout the week, students participated in a range of practical experiments and investigations, developing their observation, prediction, problem-solving and communication skills. From exploring how water moves and changes, to investigating plants, seeds and other scientific phenomena, students had opportunities to learn through doing, experimenting and having fun. As the photos show, our students embraced the opportunity to get involved, explore new ideas and share their discoveries with others.

STEAM has also been busy at Lalor! Students have been developing their engineering and coding skills by building and programming mBots, learning how instructions, sensors and movement work together to make their robots respond to commands. We have also been very excited to introduce our new Bambu Lab P1S 3D printer, opening up new opportunities for students to design, create and bring their digital ideas to life. The P1S provides fast, high-quality 3D printing and allows students to see the design process develop from an idea on the computer into a physical object. The photos capture some of the fantastic hands-on STEAM learning taking place at Lalor, from coding and construction to watching students' own designs come to life!

Caroline Inglis
STEAM Specialist

THIS JUST IN... *EYA IS DOING INCREDIBLE!!!*

**BREAKING
NEWS**

A BUSY TERM

Early Years A enjoyed '100 Days of School', where we enjoyed a lovely day of activities with our wonderful parents. Our EYA students also participated in NSA's 'Red Carpet Ready' concert this term! Everyone did such a fantastic job and demonstrated their amazing ability to imitate different actions, and were so brave to perform on the big stage!

ENGLISH AND MATHS

Students in EYA have been doing a really good job at following schedules, transitioning to new locations, and some have even been going on local walks outside of the school environment. Students have been doing so well at the foundational skills required to learn that they have been able to participate in quality structured English sessions such as doing the Little Learners Love Literacy program, as well as engaging in Maths sessions regularly. This has built up student understanding of a variety of learning topics from learning how to identify letter sounds and spell, alongside learning mathematical concepts such as 'more', 'less', and 'sharing/division'.

WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT TERM...

Next term will bring us to the end of our first and second years of school! EYA will be doing swimming lessons at Reservoir Leisure Centre. This will be a really fun excursion outside of school grounds, and will support students to understand water safety! We look forward to all that next term has to offer. I always feel grateful to work with our students and love getting the opportunity to see how much they learn and achieve.



NSA Community

The Monty the Monstar Fun Run is on the way!

Get ready to run, support the school and have a blast!

Fundraising has kicked off - let's smash our goal together! 🏃

Getting involved is super easy—just head to myprofilepage.com.au, set up a profile, and share it with family and friends for online donations. Kids can earn awesome prizes and collect Monty Coins as they go!

Raise **just \$10 to unlock your first prize**—and the more you raise, the more prizes you can mix, match, and choose! You can even donate your fundraising to one of six great causes.

Happy Fundraising!



social media age delay resources for teens

From 10 December, Australia's social media delay will start for under 16s – Kids Helpline is here to support your under 16 with the transition.

supporting teens

kidshelpline.com.au/social-ban

about the restrictions

esafety.gov.au/social-media-age-restrictions-hub



kids helpline
anytime.any reason.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

END OF TERM REMINDERS:

**Last day of Term 3:
Thursday 17th September**
School finishes at 3pm

Friday 18th September
is SSG Day.

There will be no buses running for students on this day.

**First day of Term 4:
Monday 5th October**

Thank you
Pamela Mathieson
Principal



Northern School
for Autism