

## Important Dates

### Labour Day Public Holiday

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March  
Student Free Day

### Easter Hat Parade RC & NB

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March

### Last Day Term 1

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March  
3:00pm Finish

### SSG Day

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
No Buses Running  
Student Free Day

### 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

Dear Families,

### Welcome Back to Term 1!

It has been an exciting and positive start to the school year. As always it was lovely to welcome our students and staff back to school. Classes are establishing clear expectations and routines to ensure a successful year ahead. We have made some minor changes to class placements to balance and meet individual student's needs. The class Teacher and/or Sub-school Leading Teacher will have been in contact with you if this applies to your child.

### Enrolments for 2025

Enrolments for 2025 are filling up fast. Please email me if you have a child at home, you are thinking will need to be enrolled at NSA in 2025.

### Mobile Phones

Students are not permitted to have or access their mobile phones at school. If students refuse to put their mobile phones away or hand them over to staff parents will be called to collect their child.

### School Council Elections

**It is that time of the year to renew membership of our School Council. This year we have vacancies for three parent member and two staff member. Please see the timeline attached.**

### Dual Enrolment

Just a reminder we do not change time fractions during the term. If you are wanting to change your child's time fraction start communicating this towards the end of the term.

### Leadership Structure

I would like to inform all the families of the new Leadership structure at Northern School for Autism.

Principal – Pamela Mathieson (based at the Lalor Campus 4 days a week)

Assistant Principal Reservoir Campus – Andrea Wallace

Assistant Principal across the school – Angeline Chen

Early Years A Sub School Leader (rooms 1-6) – Julia Tenuta

Early Years B Sub School Leader (room 7-12) – Tim Farley

Early Years C Sub School Leader (rooms 13-16, 26 & 27) – Elisa Wang

Middles Years A Sub School Leader – (rooms 22-25) – Monica Lee

Middles Years B Sub School Leader – (rooms 17-20) Jackson Mathieson - Lowe

Middles Years C Sub School Leader – (rooms 21A, 21B, 29, NB 1-3) Stevie Parsons

Later Years A Sub School Leader – (rooms 1-4) Ashlea Nave

Later Years B Sub School Leader – (rooms 5-9) Bernie Lim

Later Years C Sub School Leader – (rooms 10 – 14) Rasheetha Prashanth Sam

Later years D Sub School Leader – (rooms 15-17, VPC) Anna Scott and Sue O'Leary

At NSA we strongly encourage you to speak with your child's teacher, the Leadership Team, Assistant Principals, or the Principal if you have anything you wish to discuss.

**Pamela Mathieson**

**Principal**



## Form 2: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Northern School for Autism.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	TERM OF OFFICE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024  to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026	3
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2024  to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2026	2

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Kind regards,

Pamela Mathieson  
Principal

## Disability Inclusion

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, our school will begin transitioning to a new funding model for our students called Disability Inclusion.

Disability Inclusion involves:

- a new Disability Inclusion Profile and school funding model to strengthen support for students with disability.
- more resources, training and coaching for our teachers and school staff about the best ways to support students with disability.

From March, the **Disability Inclusion Profile** will be available to help us identify the strengths, needs, and adjustments we can make to assist students' learning, participation and engagement at school. The Disability Inclusion Profile replaces the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD) application process.

Over the coming years, we will invite families of students who are currently part of the PSD to participate in a meeting to complete a Disability Inclusion Profile.

We will use school funding and supports provided through Disability Inclusion for more training and professional development for teachers and school staff, employing new teachers and other staff to help plan and deliver adjustments for students and resources to support learning.

Northern School for Autism is excited to be part of Disability Inclusion and we look forward to continuing to support our students to learn and thrive.

If you have any questions about Disability Inclusion or need translation or interpreting assistance, please contact Emily Ballard ph. 9462 5990 [emily.ballard@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:emily.ballard@education.vic.gov.au)

## Student Information Packs

Reminder to parents to check and return details in the Student Information Pack by 26<sup>th</sup> February.

## Compass Parent Portal

Absence Notifications - If your child has been marked Absent without a reason, you will receive a SMS from Compass. Parents are able to add Attendance Notes from Compass.

Parent Payments for 2024 are able to be made via Compass. The Parent Payment Policy was sent home in the student information envelopes.

Excursion permissions will now be sent through this platform and all communications eg. Newsletter/ Events will be moving over to Compass..

**\*\*You will need to be using the App (*not a browser*) to submit permissions from your mobile phone\*\***

If you have students at another school you can [Switch between Compass Accounts](#) on the Mobile App

If you have any issues accessing or using COMPASS please contact the Office.

# ROOM 18.

A big welcome to term 1 of 2024 to both the students and parents of Room 18 here at NSA. We hope you all had a wonderful break over the holidays and are feeling refreshed and ready to go!

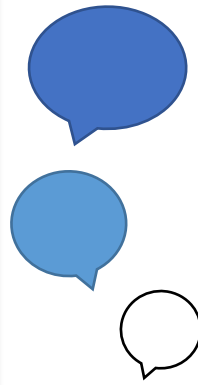
We are delighted to report that the students in Room 18 have settled into their new classroom incredibly well and it has been an encouraging start, the students have shown a lot of potential and enthusiasm for the learning opportunities which lie ahead of us.

Both students and staff are excited to see what is in store for the future as we already have various activities booked in for term one including, science incursions, swimming, local walks, and sports sessions at the local centre making for a well-rounded education program aimed at developing our students' academic, personal and social skills.

Room 18's students have already shown immense promise and the staff are looking forward to guiding their learning experiences throughout the year.

Thanks,

Grant, Kayla, Kerry, and Adam



everywhere

The **Communication Accessible Schools** or **CAS**, committee would like to reintroduce ourselves to our ever-growing NSA community. To summarise, our committee focuses on creating a school that is somewhere;

- Students feel they belong
- Students feel valued
- Every student is thought of as capable of learning
- Every student has the right to communicate
- All students are given access to communicate everywhere with everyone

We look forward to continuing to work towards providing further opportunities and access to engage in meaningful communication interactions.

Please look out for our newsletter contributions this year to keep up to date with our ongoing projects.

-CAS committee members



everyone



anytime

