

Newsletter

Important Dates

Book Week Dress-Up

Norris Bank:

Wednesday 26th August

RC and LC

Friday 28th August 2026

Reservoir School Concert

Wednesday 2nd &

Thursday 3rd September

MPR Reservoir Campus

(See poster on Compass for class details)

Please ensure you get your ticket(s)!!

Parent Coffee Morning

Lalor Campus

Friday 28th August @

9:30AM

Father's Day Stalls

LC – Tuesday 1st

September

RC – Friday 4th September

Special Lunch

LC - Wednesday 9th

September

RC and NB – Tuesday 15th

September

Reservoir Campus
16-18 Gertz Avenue,
RESERVOIR VIC 3073
Phone: (03) 9462 5990
Fax: (03) 9460 8058

Lalor Campus
35 Duncan Road,
LALOR VIC 3075
Phone: (03) 9464 3480
Fax: (03) 9464 4713



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hi Parents and Carers,

I hope you've all had a great week. It certainly feels like the term is flying by! The school has been buzzing with activity, and it's fantastic to see our students so engaged in their learning and making the most of the many opportunities on offer.

New Building – Reservoir Campus

We have some very exciting news—the new building is now ready! One of our classrooms has already moved into the new space, and both staff and students are absolutely loving it. It's wonderful to see everyone enjoying this fantastic new learning environment.

Please Check COMPASS Regularly

With so many events taking place throughout the term, I'd like to remind all families to regularly check **COMPASS** and complete permission forms as they become available.

COMPASS is our primary method of communication with families, and completing permission forms promptly helps us plan and prepare for upcoming events.

If you're unsure how to access COMPASS or need a refresher, please don't hesitate to contact our office staff, they're always happy to help.

Working Together to Keep Everyone Safe

As always, I'd like to finish with a reminder about the importance of respectful behaviour, both at school and in the wider community. Please continue to have conversations with your child about making safe and respectful choices, both **online and offline**.

At Northern School for Autism, every student and staff member has the right to feel safe. Physical or verbal violence will not be tolerated, and our behaviour management processes will continue to be applied consistently. These expectations also extend to travelling on our school buses, where respectful behaviour helps ensure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable journey to and from school.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of our school. The strong partnership we share with our families is something we value enormously, and together we continue to create the best possible opportunities for every one of our students.

TheirCare After School Care

TheirCare After School Care is now up and running at both the Reservoir and Lalor campuses. We are pleased to be able to offer this service to our families and encourage anyone who is interested to contact TheirCare directly for enrolment information and program details. Please refer to COMPASS for TheirCare contact details.

Pamela Mathieson

Principal

ROOM 12 NEWSLETTER

Classroom Learning

Room 12 has had a fantastic year of learning and discovery! Throughout our English and Maths sessions, students have been developing their reading, writing, communication and numeracy skills. Students also enjoyed celebrating special events including Harmony Day and NAIDOC Week by participating in arts and crafts that explored diversity and inclusion. Students proudly designed and created colourful hats to wear in the Easter Hat Parade.

Excursion and Incursions

Students enjoyed a variety of exciting learning experiences beyond the classroom. Weekly swimming lessons helped students build confidence in the water while practising water safety skills. Music sessions gave students the opportunity to explore different instruments, experiment with rhythm and enjoy making music. A highlight was the reptile incursion, where students learnt about snakes and lizards and had the chance to safely touch some of the reptiles.

Active Play and Wellbeing

Keeping active and healthy has been an important part of our year. Students have enjoyed riding bikes, exploring the playground and completing puzzles with their peers during leisure time. Room 12 has also done a wonderful job being SunSmart by remembering to wear hats and sunscreen before heading outside to play.

A Wonderful Year Together

It has been a wonderful time filled with learning, friendship and new experiences. We are incredibly proud of the progress every student has made and the enthusiasm they have shown across all areas of school life. We look forward to continuing to celebrate their achievements and creating many more memorable learning experiences together.

R26

What an incredible year it has been for Room 26 so far!

We have loved every moment of our exciting Science Incursions including the Mad about Science Incursion, Reptile Incursion and the Little Sprouts Incursion.

The students also had a great time splashing and learning to swim during our swimming excursion at the Reservoir Leisure Center!

Our weekly cooking sessions have been a delicious highlight — we've made and tasted Beef Ramen noodles, Pancakes, Pizzas, Nachos and Rocky Road.

In Music we have been practicing copying body actions and listening to different songs such as the Wheels on the Bus, Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes and Simon Says!

We have also had a fantastic time celebrating holidays with special events such as the Easter Hat Parade, Mother's Day, NAIDOC Week and Harmony Week! As we move toward the end of the year, we are excited to continue building our friendships and celebrate all our achievements with plenty of festive fun!

LC25

In term 3 LC25 have had a fantastic time exploring Edendale Farm, and it's been wonderful to see the students enjoying the outdoors. One student was excited to see the goats. Another really enjoyed exploring the farm and loved pointing out the different animals they could see, especially the chickens.

The visits gave us a great opportunity to learn more about caring for animals and protecting our environment. We talked about looking after plants and animals, reducing waste, recycling, saving water and keeping our surroundings clean. One student enjoyed identifying rubbish around the farm and discussing which bins different items should go into. It was great to see these conversations connecting with what we have been learning at school.

The students also had lots of opportunities to practise their community and social skills. We worked on staying together as a group, following directions, being safe around the animals and giving others enough space.

A student did a great job following instructions throughout the excursion and confidently shared their favourite parts of the day with staff and peers.

It was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves, whether they were watching the animals, exploring the farm or enjoying being outdoors with their friends. We had lots of laughs and plenty of fresh air!



SCIENCE WEEK - RC

During Science Week, Northern School for Autism was lucky to welcome Carolyn and her mum, Cathy from the Little Sprouts Program for a fun and interactive science incursion all about Powerful Pollinators.

Carolyn and Cathy used colourful photographs, visuals and hands-on activities to help our students understand pollen, pollination and the important role pollinators play in our environment. Students learned about different pollinators, including bees, butterflies and even possums with their bushy tails. They discovered why we need these amazing creatures to help plants grow.

Experiences like this are especially valuable for our students because they are designed with a strong understanding of autism and the importance of visual learning, structure and predictability. The use of clear visual supports, real objects and step-by-step demonstrations helped students to better understand and engage with new concepts. Interactive incursions like this allow students to learn in a way that is meaningful, accessible and enjoyable, while also supporting communication, attention and participation.

Our students were actively involved throughout the session. They enjoyed looking at the photos, interacting with the presenters, exploring the resources and taking part in the activities. The visual supports made the learning accessible and engaging for our students, and there were lots of smiles and plenty of fun along the way!

To put their learning into action, students also made seed balls using seeds, soil and air-dry clay. Once dry, the seed balls could be taken home and used to help grow pollinator-friendly plants.

At Northern School for Autism, we want every student to have the opportunity to be successful. Experiences like this help us provide learning opportunities that are engaging, accessible and tailored to the individual needs of our students, allowing everyone to participate and experience success.

A huge thank you to Carolyn and Cathy for visiting Northern School for Autism and creating such an engaging, hands-on learning experience for our students. It was a wonderful Science Week activity that encouraged curiosity, participation and a love of science!

Paula Coningsby

Science Teacher



SPEECH PATHOLOGY AT LALOR

Speech Pathology Week:

This term, the team celebrated Speech Pathology week. The 2026 theme is 'Communication Creates Possibility.' Throughout the week, the speech pathology team developed a range of fun activities for NSA staff to participate in.



Communication
CREATES
Possibility



Therapy sessions:

It has been an exciting term for the Lalor Speech Pathology team! Throughout this term, we have continued to support students to develop their communication skills in a variety of areas such as language, literacy, social communication and using Augmentative and Alternative Communication strategies (AAC).

Our team has enjoyed working alongside students, families and teachers to support communication in meaningful and everyday settings. These have included running small groups to support students with skills such understanding other's perspectives, team work and practical workplace skills.

We are proud of the progress our students have made and the many creative ways they are able to use communication skills to connect with others, participate in their learning and be part of the school community.



COFFEE *Morning*

**PARENTS
&
CARERS**

*Join
us*

**COFFEE, TEA &
SNACKS
PROVIDED**

Lalor

Friday

28/08/26

@ 9:30am



Northern School for Autism - Multipurpose Room