

Important Dates

Monday 4th March

Entry Students commence full time

Thursday 7th March

Parent Information Session
'Speech Pathology at NSA'
9:45am Reservoir Campus

Monday 11th March

Labour Day – Public Holiday

2019 Term Dates

Term 1: 29th January to 5th April

Term 2: 23rd April to 28th June

Term 3: 15th July to 20th September

Term 4: 7th October to 19th
December

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

All the students and staff have settled back into routine and are enjoying the structure of school. It has been very pleasing to see students completing their work schedules and being so engaged in learning. Next week our entry students start full time.

Parents communicating to classroom teachers

I would like to remind all families that it does take teaching teams a few weeks to implement structures and routines that work for every student in the classroom. Where possible, the teachers will write in the communication diary up to three times a week. If you have concerns, I would encourage you to make a time with the classroom teacher or member of the leadership team to have a discussion. I would like to remind families when communicating with any staff members please be respectful.

Reservoir Breakfast Club

Breakfast club will start on Monday 4th March. Please inform your child's teacher if you would like your child to participate in the breakfast club program. Parents are welcome to sit and eat breakfast with their child. Supervision will be provided by 8:40am. Parents are not allowed to drop their child off before then.

No cash to be sent into the classroom

Due to the very strict internal controls that DET have implemented around cash in schools – NSA is trying to become a cashless school. Please do not send cash through the home diaries. If cash is sent to school through the home diaries it will be sent home. Any payment by cash will need to be made directly at the administration office.

Parent Payment

The school fees have been increased to \$500 this year. If the fees are paid in full by the end of Term 1 there is a 10% discount. If your family is experiencing financial hardship the fees can be waived.

Child Safety Standards

At Northern School for Autism, to continue to embed a culture of child safety at school, we have a zero tolerance of child abuse. It is important to ensure it is part of our everyday thinking and practice. Through discussions, staff meetings and in our everyday routines, practices are frequently reviewed and evaluated. These will be communicated in the newsletter. Staff continuously focus on the wellbeing and the safety of our children. As mandatory reporters, we constantly review procedures, processes for reporting concerns, discuss our code of conduct and expectations. At NSA, we are



Northern School for Autism Newsletter

committed to keeping children safe and believe this to be everyone's responsibility. I would like to draw your attention to our current policy, located on the school website.

Attendance

Regular attendance helps establish routines, ensures continuity of learning and assists with relationship building with peers. Class attendance rolls are legal documents. If your child is absent you can contact the school stating the reason and the date. The records are maintained and beside each absence a code is recorded. We thank you for your anticipated support in this matter.

Thank you,
Pamela Mathieson
Principal

Northern School for Autism Newsletter

FROM THE LEADING TEACHERS

Welcome back everyone! It is fantastic to have all of our Middle Years B students back at school and settling into their new classrooms. Teaching teams have been working hard to develop classroom structures and routines to ensure every student is engaged and successful across all curriculum areas. This semester, students will be participating in structured English, Maths, Health and P.E., Science and Digital Technology sessions as well as working on their Individual Personal Learning, Interpersonal Learning and Communication goals.

Some Middle Years B students have had the opportunity to participate in a Circus Skills program. This has provided a fun and exciting way for students to practise their gross motor and fine motor skills, turn taking, waiting, sharing and ability to listen to and follow instructions. Swimming will also be beginning in Week 6 – an activity that many students look forward to!

Middle Years B students have also been busy preparing artworks and crafts for our upcoming fete. This is going to be held on March 23rd – it would be great if you could come along for the fun!

Rhiannon Parbery

Leading Teacher MYB

Hi everyone, my name is Maria Saric. I am the Leading Teacher overseeing the Later Years A sub school. I would like to welcome everyone to what has been a busy, yet positive start to the 2019 school year. Across the Later Years A sub school we have welcomed a total of 12 secondary age students into our wing. Many of which have transitioned from the Reservoir campus, and a couple having come to us from other schools.

I have been really impressed with how well the students have transitioned and settled into the school routine and there is an abundance of enthusiasm around the Later Years A wing as students' enter their class each morning and check the daily schedule to see what their day holds. Teachers are continuing to spend time establishing routines and setting clear expectations with their students.

The expectations are discussed with the students and based on our school values:

Understanding- listen to others

Trust- be friendly

Safety- keeping yourself and others safe

These expectations are established, not just for the classroom, but also for the playground, in our local and wider community and during bus travel. This ensures students' are aware of expected behaviour and are able to learn the social expectations involved with being a member of our community.

In Later Years A the students' program is based on ASDAN modules, which complements the Victorian Curriculum. NSA views ASDAN as a huge benefit to the students within the school as it equips them with the personal and social skills as well as transferable educational skills that can aid the students throughout the school curriculum and later life. It enables learners to achieve personal and social development through their achievements, thereby enhancing self-confidence, ambition and contribution to their communities.

Looking forward to a productive year. Should you have any concerns you are welcome to contact me at the Lalor campus.

Maria Saric

Leading Teacher LYA