

Newsletter

Important Dates

Special Lunch

LC - Wednesday 9th

September

RC and NB – Tuesday 15th

September

FOOTY DAY DRESS UP

RC, NB, and LC

Tuesday 15th September

Last Day Term 3:

Thursday 17th September

3:00pm Finish

SSG Day:

Friday 18th September

No 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,

It is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of Term 3! The days are getting longer, and there is even a little bit of warmth from the sun when we are out on our many playgrounds, traffic and bus duties. It is a lovely reminder that spring is just around the corner!

Reservoir Concert

I would like to thank Rachael Levine, our leaders, Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists and teaching teams who helped organise the concert at Reservoir.

The students have been practising all term, and it was such a wonderful achievement for them to get up on stage and perform in front of so many people. It was fantastic to see so many students participate on the day.

Staff Absences and Our Programs

Staff absences have also been particularly high this term. As a specialist school, our programs rely on staff who know our students well and understand their individual communication, learning, wellbeing and support needs.

When we have several staff away at the same time, we sometimes have no choice but to make changes to our usual programs. This may mean having a casual teacher supervising a class, staff being moved from other areas.

We understand that these changes can be challenging for students and families. Please know that our leadership team works very hard each morning to find the best possible solution while maintaining the safety and wellbeing of all our students. We appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility when these situations occur.

Changes to Bus Arrangements

If there are any changes to your child's afternoon bus arrangements, please contact the school office no later than 2.00 pm.

The end of the school day is an extremely busy time, with staff coordinating buses, families and student transitions. The earlier we know who is and are not travelling on a bus, the smoother the process will be for everyone.

Importantly, having clear arrangements also helps reduce unnecessary uncertainty and anxiety for our students, many of whom rely heavily on predictable routines.

Father's Day Stall

A big thank you to everyone who helped organize and support our Father's Day Stall. Our students really enjoyed visiting the stall and choosing something special for their fathers and other important people in their lives.

We would also like to wish all the fathers, grandfathers and special father figures in our school community a very happy Father's Day. We hope you have a wonderful day celebrating with your families!

Personal Property and Accident Insurance and Ambulance Cover Arrangements - Reminder

Both the school and Department of Education do not hold insurance for personal property brought to school and they have no capacity to pay for any damage or loss. Parents and Carers who do not have accident insurance are responsible for paying the cost for medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs.

People who are exempt from paying ambulance costs include:

- Any person with a current Victorian Pensioner Concession Card and their children.
- Anyone with a Health Care Card, including their dependent spouse or children.
- Children with a Child Disability Health Care Card or Foster Health Care Card.

Parents and carers can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers. As loss or damage of personal property that is brought to school is not the responsibility of the school it is essential that items of value do not come to school.

The NSA policy can be found on: <https://www.northernautism.vic.edu.au/policies-protocols>

R U OK? Day

On Thursday, 10th September, it was R U OK? Day. Please check in with your family and friends, start a conversation, and ask if they need help.

1. Ask
2. Listen
3. Encourage Action
4. Check In

If you have a feeling that someone you know or care about isn't behaving as they normally would? Perhaps they seem out of sorts? More agitated or withdrawn? Or they're just not themselves. Trust that gut instinct and act on it.

By starting a conversation and commenting on the changes you've noticed, you could help that family member, friend, or workmate open up. If they say they are not OK, you can follow the conversation steps below to show them they're supported and help them find strategies to better manage their situation. If they are OK, that person will know you're someone who cares enough to ask. <https://www.ruok.org.au/how-to-ask>

Reminder: Parent/Carer/Guardian Opinion Survey

A friendly reminder that the Parent/Carer/Guardian Opinion Survey will close on 18 September.

Families who have been randomly selected to participate would have received an invitation to complete the survey via their primary family email address.

We truly value your feedback. Your responses help us understand what we are doing well and where we can continue to improve, helping to shape our school's future planning and support for our students and families. The survey is online and takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. It can be completed at a time that suits you, on most devices, and is also available in a range of languages other than English.

If you have received an invitation, we kindly encourage you to take the time to share your valuable feedback before the survey closes.

Thank you for your time and for helping us continue to improve our school community.

Pamela Mathieson
Principal

★Room 13★



We have had so much fun in Room 13 so far! We have enjoyed meeting some amazing reptiles during our incursion, exploring different playgrounds and gyms around the school, playing and building together, dressing up for Book Week, cooking, swimming and practising for our school concert. It has been great to see everyone getting involved, trying new experiences and having fun alongside their classmates. We have already made lots of great memories together and are looking forward to even more fun and learning for the rest of the year!



Room 27 Update

Room 27 has had a fantastic start to the year! We've enjoyed getting out and about on our excursions to local parks, with plenty of opportunities for fun, exploration and learning together.

Concert excitement!

We have been working hard on our concert practice and are very excited to perform for our families in Week 6. We can't wait to show you what we've been practicing!

Out and About!

We are looking forward to going on a local walk around the school and learning all about road safety. Students will practice staying safe near roads, using crossings and being aware of their surroundings.

Learning together!

In Numeracy, we have started learning about comparison and will soon explore patterns and algebra. In English, we continue to enjoy shared reading, building our vocabulary and taking part in our Little Learners Love Literacy sessions.

We're looking forward to a semester full of learning, laughter and new adventures!

LC11

This semester has flown by in LC11! It has been a busy term filled with enriching experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

With three students graduating at the end of this year and the remainder heading into their final two years of schooling, developing work and life skills has been a key focus. Several students have participated in Work Experience at Wallara Logistics, building teamwork skills and gaining valuable experience alongside employees. Our new applied learning program has also been a highlight, with students assisting NSA reception staff to contact classrooms and notify teachers when students are being picked up early. It has been fantastic to see students building relationships with members of our school community, recognising parents and carers as they arrive and taking the time to chat with them. Other students have been completing weekly mock job interviews, practising impromptu questions and discussion topics, while others have been participating in our laundry program and developing practical skills that can be used at home.

Music continues to be a shared interest across LC11, with weekly sessions often being a highlight of the week. Students have also been cooking up a storm, preparing a variety of meals and tasty treats each week. Alongside developing their cooking skills, students have enjoyed exploring new foods and practising safe food handling and hygiene.

A number of students have also regularly participated in interschool sports, including Netball, Basketball and AFL, competing against schools from across Melbourne's northern suburbs. The AFL Gala Day was a particular highlight, with members of Victoria Police attending and providing activities including fingerprinting, exploring Highway Patrol bikes and meeting X, the friendly detection dog.

Overall, it has been a fantastic semester in LC11, filled with learning, laughter, new experiences and many memorable moments. We are proud of our students' progress and look forward to all they will achieve throughout the rest of the year.

Book Week Celebration at NSA!

NORRIS BANK BOOK WEEK

BOOK WEEK INTEGRATION PROGRAM

Our Integration Program with Norris Bank Primary School was a wonderful celebration of Book Week! Students came together in mixed groups and enjoyed an exciting 30-minute session filled with shared stories, creative activities and opportunities to connect with new friends.

After the sessions, everyone headed down to the hall for the much-anticipated Book Week Parade! Students proudly showcased their fantastic costumes, bringing their favourite book characters to life. It was a fantastic day of friendship, creativity, costumes and celebrating our love of books!

LVA

APPLIED LEARNING PROGRAM

The Applied Learning program is an important part of the later year's curriculum at Lalor. It is a transition from a classroom based curriculum to an engaging hands on program; 'learning by doing'. The Applied Learning program addresses the schools mission: *'Students are supported towards developing their personal and educational potential, so as to be valued contributors to family and community life'*. Across each student's schooling journey, they will participate in a range of practical, hands-on learning experiences that support the development of a range of skills that can be used in the home, community and work place. The intention of the program is to build a strong understanding of each step involved, in order to be as independent as possible in each applied learning area. This semester the Later Years A students are doing office skills, cafe, library maintenance, OP shop, clothing design, recycling and gardening. We are incredibly proud at how hard our students are working to develop these skills.

FOOTY DRESS UP DAY

Tuesday 15th September

**Come dressed in your
favourite Footy Colours!**



NDIS Navigator News

by NSA NDIS Navigator Alex



Family support and how to contact me



I'm here at NSA to support families with NDIS questions, funding reviews, community programs, and accessing services. If you need help with paperwork, evidence letters, or finding supports, please reach out. There is no cost.

Call or email me: alex.richards@education.vic.gov.au
Available: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during term time

Upcoming workshops and events



Free online webinars from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) in September. Check out www.events.humanitix.com

Supporting an NDIS participant to make decisions. Thursday 10th September 1-2pm. It will cover:

- Supported decision making and how it works in practice
- Nominees, guardians, and child representatives
- Participant consent and what it means

An Overview of NDIS Legislation Changes: Securing the NDIS for future generations. Tuesday 15th September 3-4pm.

Supports, grants and helpful resources

Did you know you may be considered a carer? If you support your child with daily routines, therapies, communication, behaviour, or medical needs, you are recognised as a carer — even though you are also their parent.

Being a carer simply means you are doing more than typical parenting, and this makes you eligible for supports like the Carer Card and help through Carer Gateway.



HUME INDOOR CRICKET CENTRE

SCHOOL IS OUT, CRICKET IS IN!



21 September - 2 October



10am - 3pm



Express your interest today

ENQUIRE NOW



Hume
Leisure



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