

Important Dates

Little Sprouts Science Incursion – RC & NB
Mon 12th Aug & Tue 13th Aug

Curriculum Day & Student Free Day
Friday 16th Aug
No classes & No buses

Parent Coffee Morning
Tuesday 27th Aug

RC Concert
Wed 28th Aug & Thurs 29th Aug

LC NSA's Got Talent
Thursday 5th Sept

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

Hello Parents and Carers,

Term 3 has been very busy across the three sites. The turf has been replaced in Playground 6 at the Reservoir Campus, and the roof is nearly complete for the new Lalor build.

This term, there are several events planned. Last week, we celebrated 100 days of school with the Prep families. The concert at Reservoir and NSA's Got Talent at Lalor will both take place later this term.

Literacy Programs Across the School

A Literacy Committee has been formed, and we are currently auditing our literacy programs and investigating new programs that would benefit the student cohort across the school.

Disability Royal Commission

I am pleased to advise that the Victorian Government has published its response to the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of People with Disability (the Royal Commission). This follows a commitment made by the Australian Government and state and territory governments to respond to the Royal Commission in mid-2024. Click on the link to view the Victorian Government's response:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/disability-royalcommission-response>

Parking

We kindly request that you refrain from parking across our neighbors' driveways, as it blocks their access and causes significant inconvenience. Living next to a school can already be challenging for our neighbors, and your cooperation in ensuring that their driveways remain clear would greatly contribute to maintaining good relations with our community. We appreciate your understanding and support in this matter. Thank you for helping us create a more respectful and considerate environment for everyone.

School Insurance Reminder / Personal Property

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 bought to school is not the responsibility of the school it is essential that items of value do not come to school.

Sibling Enrolment

If you have a child at home whom you would like to enrol at NSA for 2025, please reach out to Rose at Roselyn.datiles@education.vic.gov.au to discuss enrolment options.

Pamela Mathieson

Principal

Room 11

Students in Room 11 have had an amazing first semester with lots of engaging and exciting activities. We enjoyed weekly excursions to Mill Park Playground and Inflatable World and we celebrated the end of Term 2 with a special excursion to the cinemas.

Last term students were very excited to participate in our Science incursions and we are eagerly awaiting more experiences this term. Science is a weekly classroom favourite and these incursions offer new and exciting topics and activities for us to engage in. Other weekly favourites include visiting the STEAM building and students have been learning to work with their peers while engaging with new resources such as the marble run and robotics.

This term we are continuing to practice our dance for the school concert and we are very excited to have the opportunity to perform for our friends and families. We have also just begun our swimming program and it is great to see all students increasing their confidence in the water weekly. In Math, we are currently exploring money and all students have enjoyed exploring, sorting, matching, naming and using money during activities and games.

ROOM 27

OUR “GOOSY LUCY’S!!!”

We are thrilled to share with you the fantastic achievements and activities from Room 27 last semester! It was a semester filled with learning, exploration, and plenty of fun adventures.

Students engaged in both Math and English studies, honing their skills and deepening their understanding of these core subjects. They love visiting the STEAM building and learning about exciting activities that spark creativity and problem-solving abilities.

Students had a blast cooking up tasty treats, grooved to the beats of music, and boogied with joy while dancing, each child exploring and discovering their talents in lots of fun ways!

The semester was not complete without excursions! Our students enjoyed visiting exciting venues such as Bounce, Action Indoor Sports, Inflatable World, and swimming lessons. These excursions not only provided a break from routine but also fostered teamwork, physical activity, and unforgettable memories.

We are immensely proud of our students for their enthusiasm and positive attitude toward learning and exploration. Their love for excursions and adventures made each outing a joyous occasion for all involved.



The luckiest classroom at the Northern School for Autism, has resumed in Term 3 with all students settling in very nicely all but a little sad, considering their much loved “Lana” is away recovering from foot surgery. During this term, the schools P.E specialist “Brad”, is helping out with the young lads due to his familiarity with them. With icy cold winters mornings, their Olympic activities have moved indoors where table tennis, throwing events and timed races have been taking place.

What has been very pleasing to see is just how much “Lana” has been missed by everyone and the tremendous input she provides to the students. We’re learning more about each other as a class every day, with the main focus of slowly introducing different tasks whilst making them more challenging and engaging. Chess / numbers game / hang person / word searches and extremely hard mazes have all been big winners thus far. We’re also so very “LUCKY 13” to have two very talented, thoughtful, caring and amazing Teaching Aides in “Lea & Katherine” within the ranks. Now just how many of you have counted the number of pictures here, could this be a tattslotto omen for this week?

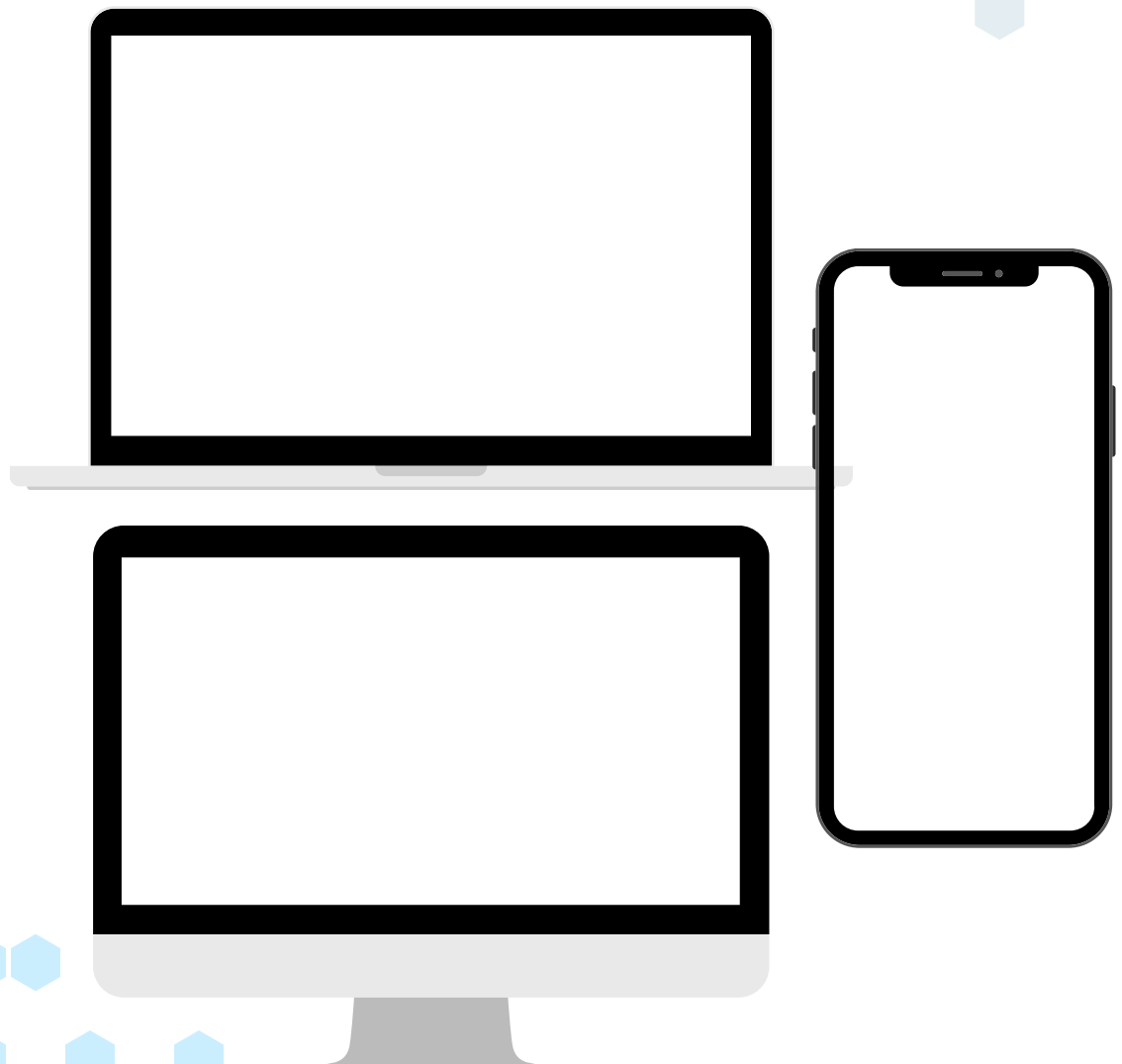
Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

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At Lalor, students are learning and practising to use their devices, books, and aided language displays to communicate with others. These are all forms of Augmentative and Alternative Communication, or AAC. For students who need support with communicating, AAC is vital.

One reason AAC is so important to us here at school is its role in language learning and use. Language skills are one of the most important factors in students being able to learn and succeed in areas such as reading, maths and science. It supports the ability to understand the teacher, the topics and to socialise with friends.

We like to see our students at Lalor flexing their communication muscles!



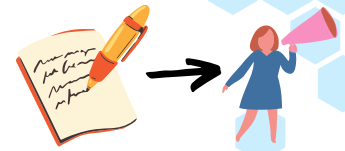
Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

Here are some tips and tricks to support understanding and communication at home...



Google Lens can be a great way to access the internet for students who struggle with reading. It provides text to speech so that they can listen to text from a webpage.

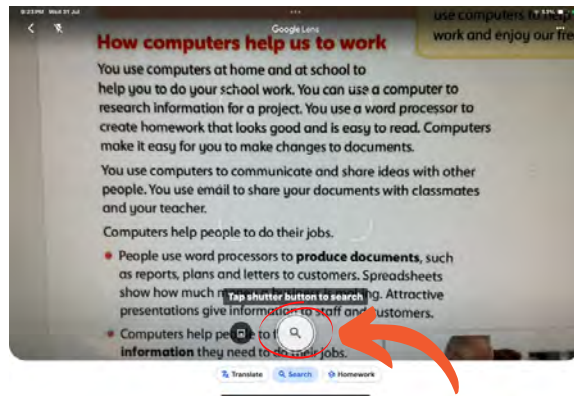
USING GOOGLE LENS



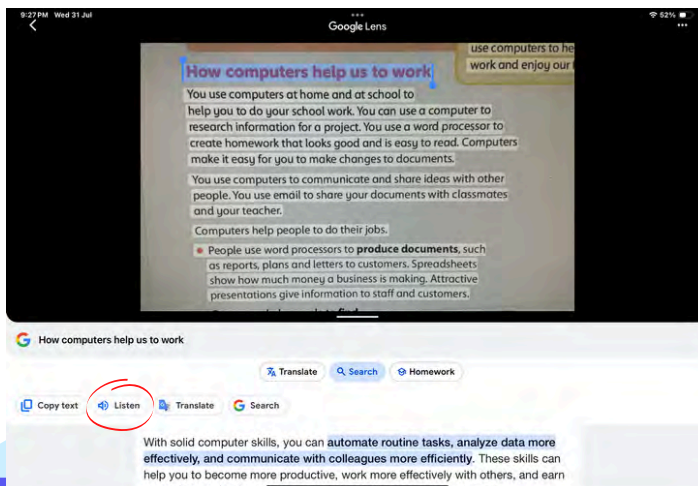
Press on the camera icon



Protected with encryption



Move camera to text and take photo



Getting it read aloud

1. Hold and press on text
2. Select text
3. Press "Listen"

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

iPads can be tempting for students who want to access apps other than their communication system.

Guided Access can 'lock' the iPad within one app to reduce distraction

Guided Access

What is it?

It stops students from closing out of an app on an Apple device. You can set a passcode to toggle guided access on/off.

Setting up guided access



1. Go to settings



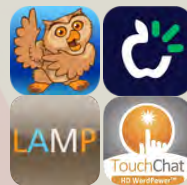
2. Go to Accessibility and scroll down to find Guided Access

3. Turn on Guided Access



4. Set a passcode (if required)

Starting guided access



1. Open the app that you want to use

2. Press the home button three times. For iPads without home buttons: click the lock screen button three times

3. Press Start (Top right corner)

Ending guided access

1. Press the home button three times (and passcode if required)

2. Press End



Get your Colour on!

Northern School for Autism is hosting another Colour Explosion Run 4 Fun!

Our Colour Explosion Run 4 Fun will be on 18th September 2024 from 9.10am – 2.45pm.

Not only are we hosting an awesome Colour Explosion Run 4 Fun, students can also order up to a total of 5 prizes based on their donations received. They can even mix and match! Don't want the prizes, donate your donations to one of the five causes – Carbon Neutral (tree planting), Great Barrier Reef Foundation (coral planting or turtle protection), The Smith Family (reading support) or OzHarvest (providing meals).

Students have received a sponsorship book with instructions on setting up their cybersafe, online fundraising profile at www.australianfundraising.com.au. This is an entirely online fundraiser; all cash donations must be converted to online donations to redeem your prizes.

Extra Incentives to Fundraise!

- ★ Online Golden Coins – complete fun online tasks to redeem an extra \$75 towards your prize credit.
- ★ Monty the Monstar's Bonus Prizes – achieve milestones to unlock Monty's bonus prizes.
- ★ \$10,000 Budget Booster Bonanza Spending Spree for one organisation's highest fundraising student
- ★ Our school will win an extra \$5,000 if we have the highest average fundraised amount per student in 2024.
- ★ A Play Station 5 Gaming Bundle – see your child's sponsorship booklet for more!

For more information, please contact:

Andrea Wallace on 9462 5990 or andrea.wallace@education.vic.gov.au

Brodie King on brodie.king@hotmail.com

Happy fundraising!