



Newsletter #1 February 4, 2025

[Newsletter #1 February 4, 2025](#)

Navigating our Newsletter

If you're looking for an easy way to find relevant information and sections in our newsletter, try using the navigation button in the bottom right of your screen.

Simply select the section you would like and away you go!

[Diary Dates](#)

Friday February 7

Assembly

Wednesday February 5

Foundation Testing Day

Monday February 10

Years 4, 5 & 6 Meet the Teacher via appointment on Compass

Tuesday February 11

Years 1, 2 & 3 Meet the Teacher via appointment on Compass

Years 4, 5 & 6 Meet the Teacher via appointment on Compass

Wednesday February 12

Years 1, 2 & 3 Meet the Teacher via appointment on Compass

Wednesday February 12

Foundation Testing Day

Friday February 14

inSPIRE GROUP

Tuesday 18 February

School tour

Wednesday February 19

Foundation Testing Day

Monday 17 February -Friday 21 February

Year 4 and 5 Swimming Program

Friday February 21

Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports - Home vs Seaford North

Friday February 21

Assembly

Monday 25 February

School tour

Wednesday February 26

Foundation Testing Day

Wednesday February 26 - Friday February 28

Year 6 Camp

Friday February 28

District Swimming (selected students only)

Wednesday March 5

Foundation Picnic 5-6pm

Thursday 6 March

School tour

Friday March 7

Assembly

Friday March 7

Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports - Home vs Bonbeach

Monday 10 March

Labour Day

Wednesday March 12

District Swimming (selected students only)

Thursday 13 March

School tour

Thursday March 13

Whole School Photos

Friday March 14

Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports - Home vs Seaford

Friday March 21

District Lightning Premiership

Monday 25 March

School tour

Friday March 28

Assembly

Friday March 28

Yr 5/6 Interschool Sports - Away vs Cornish

Friday April 4

Last day term 1, 2:30pm finish

Principal's Report

The start of a new school year is always exciting, and I would like to thank the families and staff for making the transition back to school a very seamless one! Thank you, for entrusting your children into our care!

It is lovely to welcome back Ms Bensted and a big welcome to Ms Samadi, Ms Scully, Ms Lynch, Ms Vella, Ms Reed, Ms Emmett and Ms Rasdell to our school community.

On their return to school, staff were involved in their own professional learning with Ash Manual, CEO of **Growing with Gratitude**. Ash presented strategies for teaching gratitude, empathy and self-awareness to promote and support mental wellbeing. Mrs Winberg and Mr Koppens have included further information in this newsletter in regard to the Student Wellbeing program at Patterson Lakes Primary School in 2025 for your reference.

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

It is Department of Education policy that students who choose to bring mobile phones and watches to school must have them switched off and securely stored in a provided safe in the classrooms during school hours.

The school's mobile phone policy can be found on our school website under Policies.

AMBULANCE COVER AND STUDENT INSURANCE

Departmental policy states that the cost of any medical attention or ambulance for a student, will be borne by the parent/guardian. Parents are liable for all medical expenses incurred as a result of student injury, including transport costs such as ambulance or air ambulance costs. I would encourage all families to ensure that they have personal ambulance cover as a minimum.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

Just a reminder to all parents that teachers are officially on yard duty before school from 8.45am – 9.00am and after school from 3.30pm - 3.45pm. A bell is sounded at 3.45pm to ensure that students who have not been collected by parents report to the office.

For new parents to our school, the following procedures have been implemented in relation to student safety, with some children arriving at school well before 8.30am.

Contact will be made with parents informing them that staff are not officially on yard duty until 8.45am. Please note that TheirCare has a before school program as well.

PUNCTUALITY

The school seeks the cooperation of parents to ensure that children arrive at school no later than 8.50am, to enable classes to commence on time and without interruption. If students arrive after 9am they miss important introductions and instructions to learning sessions. This disadvantages the student who is late, and also impacts negatively on the other students and

the teaching time for the whole class, as the teacher often needs to stop teaching to re-explain instructions to the late member of the class.

Students who are late are required to go to the student foyer and obtain a late pass before proceeding to class. If students are required to leave school early, parents are to sign them out from the student foyer. For students at Patterson Lakes, coming to school every day is their 'job'. It is important that they are at school each day.

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT AND ROUTINES

We encourage all families to be involved in the programs at our school. When speaking with the classroom teacher, enquiry as to whether they require any assistance within the classroom, on excursions or camps. This is a great way for your child to see you involved and interested in their learning. It is also important that classroom routines are maintained. If you need to speak with a teacher, please send them an email or place a note in your child's bag.

FUNDRAISING 2025

A very big thank you to all of the families in our community for supporting our fundraising ventures in 2024. Thank you to all of the hard work of Mr Clohesy, the School Council and families who have supported our fundraising efforts, the first stage of the Junior playground is now complete and our focus this year is to finalise the playground with a rubber surface.

PARKING IN THE STAFF CARPARK

I understand that if you are running late, or have been caught in traffic, that quickly parking in the staff carpark, might be an easy solution. However, parents are asked not to park in the carpark, or walk through the carpark, for the safety of their children around moving vehicles.

ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#). https://www.patterson-lakes-ps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/schoolsprivacypolicy.pdf

2025 SCHOOL CAMPING PROGRAM

As publicised to families in the Excursions, Camps and Activities planner in Term 4 last year, the Year 6 camping program to Phillip Island is held early in Term 1, February 26th – 28th. The planning and preparation for the camp is nearly finalised and when speaking to the students and staff this week, it is an event they are certainly looking forward to!

The following school camp opportunity has been planned as a Year 3 and 4 camp to Manyung [Mt Eliza] at the beginning of Term 2, April 23rd and 24th.

The camp managers allocate the timing of the camps and the minimum number of students who are required to attend. Over the past 3 years, we have found that many families in the middle years of the school have, for their own personal reasons, not given permission for their child to attend. To ensure that the school camping program continues for those who wish to participate in this extra-curricular program, the School Council supported the decision to amend the structure and delivery of the program. I have been in contact with the camp coordinators and there are no alternative dates available in 2025. Further information will be distributed to families in the next fortnight to get an indication of the number of students attending.

The Year 5 students have their Sovereign Hill [Creswick] camp in Term 4, October 16th – 18th. Further information in regard to this great opportunity will be available to families as the year progresses.

GLOBAL GOALS

Curiosity and Powerful Learning is the basis of all programs in our school, and I would like to congratulate the teaching staff for incorporating the 17 Sustainable Development Goals within our curriculum and will continue to be a focus for our in 2025.

We want our students to be curious about their learning; ask questions to seek further understanding and develop an emotional intelligence to be lifelong learners. We wish to continue to develop student voices and their agency within our school. Students in our community, particularly over the past 5 years have begun to develop a growing awareness and understanding of global issues. Our curriculum development will be using the lens of Thinking Global – Acting Local. Our broader community encompasses a river, wetlands, a newly developed solar farm, a beach and bay environment to name just a few – all opportunities for our students to develop their understandings further.

For families who are interested in investigating the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, I have placed a link for your reference below. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

A NEW YEAR OF LEARNING

The Department of Education have developed a new website for families to find further supportive information on the return to the school year. [A new year of learning | vic.gov.au](https://www.vic.gov.au/a-new-year-of-learning)

- The website covers aspects such as: **Getting ready for kindergarten**
- **Early childhood supports**
- **Getting ready for primary school**
- **Getting ready for secondary school**
- **Getting ready for the final years of secondary school**
- **What to expect at school**
- **Help with school costs and fees**
- **Health, wellbeing and inclusion**

Assistant Principal's Report

MEET THE TEACHER BOOKINGS ON COMPASS FOR NEXT WEEK

The school will be offering parents/carers the chance to meet their child's teacher next week.

If the following days and times do not suit, you are welcome to arrange a mutually convenient time with the teacher.

Bookings are available on Compass now and are filling fast.

Years 4, 5 and 6 teachers will be available on Monday, 10th February from 2:20-4:40pm and again on Tuesday, 11th February from 3:30-4:40pm.

Years 1, 2 and 3 teachers will be available on Tuesday, 11th February from 3:30-4:40pm and again on Wednesday, 12th February from 2:20-4:40pm.

Foundation students and their families will enjoy a 'Getting to Know You' picnic at school on Wednesday, 5th March from 5-6pm. This will be held at the front of the school.

The school will once again be sharing with families what is happening in classes regarding curriculum overviews, three times per term and our school newsletter will be shared via Compass at the commencement of the week that we have our whole school assemblies.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating their birthdays over the next couple of weeks

Vienn S February 4

Sara P February 5

Romeo O-B February 5

Mason J February 6

Jack S February 6

Levi G February 6

Zach K February 8

Remi T February 8

Joshua Q February 8

Lennon P February 13

Ryan W February 13

Morgan S February 14

Luke R February 15

Scarlet P February 15

Mia R February 16

Mason W February 17

Gunbileg U February 21

Ava G February 21

Macie C February 21

Wellbeing at PLPS

Hello Parents and Guardians,

We warmly welcome you back to a new school year and would like to provide you with an overview of the Wellbeing Curriculum and interventions available to support your child. Our focus is on fostering the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of all students.

We take pride in centering our programs and initiatives on creating a nurturing and positive environment for your child to thrive.

This year some of our whole school Wellbeing Curriculum initiatives include:

Embedding the Universal Supports (*Positive Classroom Management Strategies*)-This term our staff will focus on:

1. Classroom Expectations-Aligned with our school values, classroom expectations will be explicitly taught and visible across the school. We have introduced 'School Wide Positive Behaviour Cards,' which will be awarded to students who demonstrate our core values: Integrity, Respect, and Excellence.

Student Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR DISPLAYED:



Integrity Respect Excellence

2. Classroom Procedures and Routines-Teachers will focus on explicitly teaching classroom routines and transitions, helping students build habits to efficiently accomplish tasks and maximize learning.

Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR)-The purpose of this program is to develop students' social, emotional and positive relationship skills. The RRRR curriculum include 8 Social and Emotional Learning topics across all levels of primary education:

- Emotional Literacy
- Personal Strengths
- Positive Coping
- Problem Solving
- Stress Management
- Help Seeking
- Gender and Identity
- Positive Gender Relationships.



eSafety Curriculum-Teachers are committed to teaching lessons that will develop students' awareness when using online platforms. Some of the topics that will be covered include:

- cyberbullying
- reporting inappropriate content
- identity theft
- hacks/scams

InSPIRE program-The InSPIRE program continues this year, where students from different year levels come together multiple times a term to build supportive relationships across the school. This program fosters connections beyond the classroom, with sessions focusing on themes like cultural diversity, inclusion, and wellbeing.

Other Wellbeing Initiatives:

Rethink Process- Restorative practice is a strategy that staff use to help students seek and repair relationships that have been damaged. In brief, the purpose is for the students themselves to understand the reasons behind their actions and the impact they may cause to others. Please see below the steps a teacher will take, prior to our Leadership team's need to intervene:



Lunchtime Programs: Last year, our school facilitated many opportunities for students to participate in a variety of clubs. These were a great opportunity to promote relationships across the F-6 levels. These programs and more will continue to run in 2025 at lunchtimes:

1. **Social Club**-An indoor space with a wide range of board games and activities for students to play running daily. Some activities include Lego, colouring in, board games and card games.

2. **Play Leaders**-A Foundation -2 daily program facilitated by our Year 5 leaders running in the hall. Students play a range of fun games using PE equipment in groups.
3. **Kitchen/Garden**: Students engage in weeding, planting and cooking in our Kitchen Garden space. We encourage students to use some of the fresh produce grown in their cooking sessions.
4. **Chess Club**-held in the STEAM Room.

Breakfast Club-Every Tuesday from 8.30am-9.00am families are welcome to join staff to share a breakfast in the Social Club room. This is a free meal provided by the school starting in week 3.

In 2025, we will be introducing the Social Stencil Program.

Huff and Puff Program-Once a week, classes participate in a fun/fitness session led by Adrian Patane and our Yr 6 leaders. The rationale of the program is to encourage students to develop their skills, knowledge and confidence to be active for life. Students return to class after the session more focused, energised and ready for learning.

We also have many support measures in place for students to access. Last year we implemented Lego Therapy, Art Programs, I Can Mentoring Program, Therapy Dog Program and the Choices Program for students with a range of individual needs. In 2025, we will be introducing the Social Stencil Program. This is an evidence based approach to teaching social skills and strategies to support friendship, peer relationships and the ability to manage conflict.

Additionally, we will also continue to offer our free counselling service provided by Monash University Master of Counselling students, who work closely in conjunction with the school. Please contact Mark Koppens if you would like further information about accessing counselling assistance.

Staff Professional Development:



Last week, we hosted Ash Manual, CEO of **Growing with Gratitude**, who presented strategies for teaching gratitude, empathy, self-awareness and more to promote mental wellbeing. Our staff also learned new approaches for enhancing their own wellbeing.

This term, we will focus on professional learning to support neurodiverse students, with particular attention on adjustments for ADHD and ASD.

We look forward to keeping you updated on our wellbeing initiatives throughout the year.

Kind regards,

Mark Koppens (Wellbeing Leader)

mark.koppens@education.vic.gov.au

Sally Winberg (Disability Inclusion Leader)

sally.winberg@education.vic.gov.au



1:1 BYOD Devices - Laptops

Years Three -to Six

Thank you to all the families who purchased new laptops over the Christmas break.

Our IT technician is only on-site Wednesdays and due to the large number of laptops needing to be imaged/reimaged (all data, apps and settings will be removed and replaced with the PLPS eduSTAR Windows 10 image) there has been a back log, and it may take a couple of weeks to complete them all.

In the meantime, if your child(ren) needs to borrow a laptop, we have a form at the office that you will need to complete, and we can organise a loan laptop. Once your child(ren)'s personal laptop is ready for collection they can return the schools laptop to the library.

We appreciate your patience and understanding regarding this.

If you have any questions, please contact the office on 9772 4011

Canteen Hub

WELCOME TO CANTEEN HUB



GETTING READY TO PLACE YOUR FIRST ORDER

- 1 Create a new profile at canteenhub.com.au/register-customer
- 2 Add Profile: Set up children or yourself under the Profiles tab
- 3 Search for your school via postcode or name
- 4 Select your class
- 5 Head to Order Now
- 6 Select the person you are ordering for
- 7 Select items from the approved menu & finalise your order
- 8 To place orders for multiple people. You will be asked when you finalise your first order if you would like to place another order for another profile (person)

✉ help@canteenhub.com

🌐 canteenhub.com.au



Friendly Reminder: Don't Forget Your Art Smock!

Mrs. Munnikhuis would like to kindly remind everyone that it's important for ALL students to bring an Art Smock to school. These important garments help shield our young artists' clothes from the unavoidable paint splatters that accompany creative activities. With an art smock, students can fully engage in their artistic endeavours without the worry of damaging their uniforms.

An art smock can be as simple as an old shirt or t-shirt, but we highly recommend a smock made from soft, waterproof plastic material. Ideally, it should have sleeves and easily slip over the head, providing quick and hassle-free protection for your child's clothes.

Where to Purchase?

Smocks can be easily found at local retailers such as Officeworks, Target, Kmart, Big W, Uniform Shops, or Best and Less.

There's a fun incentive! The first CLASS in which all students bring their Art Smocks will be rewarded with an icy pole treat. It's a fantastic way to encourage participation while fostering creativity in our classrooms.

So, please:

- Acquire or check your child's wardrobe for a suitable smock

- Place your child's name on the tag to ensure easy identification
- Bring the smock to school
- Let's get creative and enjoy a splash of colour in our art classes!

Happy creating!



Community Organisation Ads

Orange Tree Music

Music lessons at Patterson Lakes PS:

PIANO, GUITAR, UKULELE, VIOLIN, DRUM and VOICE

Lessons are offered during and after school hours with Orange Tree Music.

Lessons are \$44 for half an hour (private lessons) or \$18 for group lessons.

**all instruments are available for hire

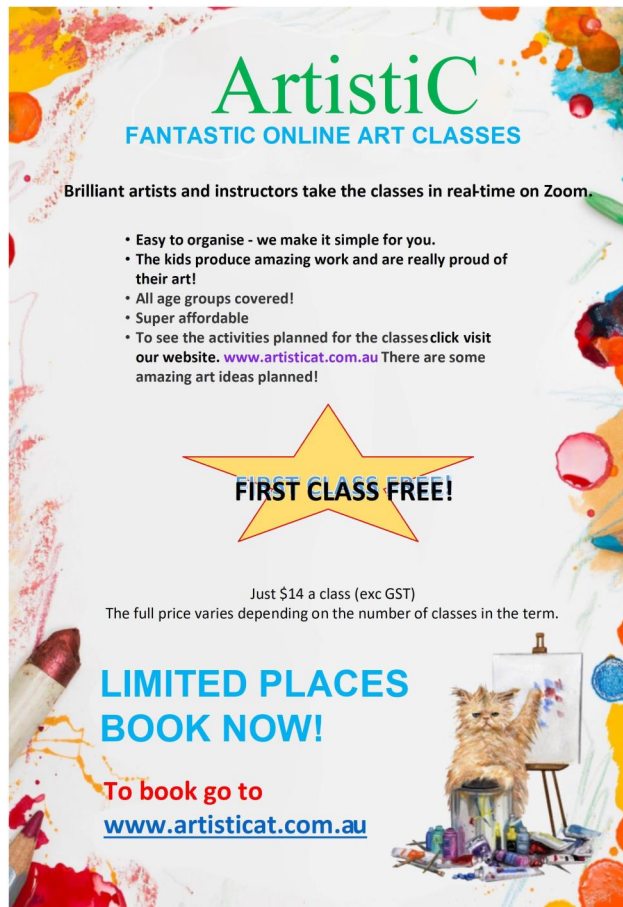
Simply enrol using the link:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/OrangeTreeMusic/OrangeTreeMusicStudentEnrolmentForm>

If you have any questions call Carol on 0411 402 102



ArtistiCat flyer



Artisticat
FANTASTIC ONLINE ART CLASSES

Brilliant artists and instructors take the classes in real-time on Zoom.

- Easy to organise - we make it simple for you.
- The kids produce amazing work and are really proud of their art!
- All age groups covered!
- Super affordable
- To see the activities planned for the classes click visit our website. www.artisticat.com.au There are some amazing art ideas planned!

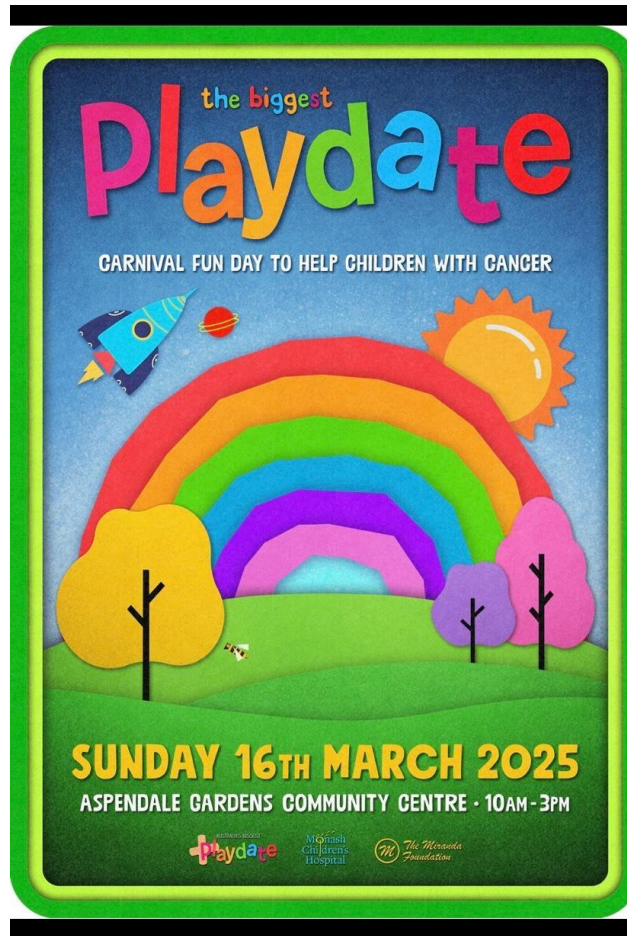
FIRST CLASS FREE!

Just \$14 a class (exc GST)
The full price varies depending on the number of classes in the term.

**LIMITED PLACES
BOOK NOW!**

To book go to
www.artisticat.com.au

Playdate



the biggest Playdate

This year, we have decided to incorporate our community support to provide our prizes for the children at our upcoming event, The Biggest Playdate. We are seeking donations of new, unwrapped presents suitable for primary school aged children. Your generous contributions will not only bring joy to the children but also help us raise funds for Monash Children's Cancer Centre. The Biggest Playdate will be held on 16 March next year and these prizes play a vital role in providing excitement for our games! We aim to create a memorable experience for our communities children while also supporting our fundraising efforts .

If you are able to contribute, we ask if you can simply bring a block of chocolate, a jar you've filled with lollies OR an unwrapped gift to
THE SCHOOL OFFICE or deliver to;

Miranda Accounting Services, Unit 8/271-263 Wells Rd,
Chelsea Heights OR Email for collection reception@mirandas.com.au

***Thank you for helping us to make a difference to the lives
of children with cancer***

 Chelsea Heights
Primary School

