Pakenham Lakeside PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter
8th October 2026

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Principal's Report

Welcome back to all members of our school community after what I hope has been an enjoyable and relaxing holiday break. On behalf of our students and staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students who have enrolled at PLPS and are continuing their education at our school.

If you have visited our school office this week you may have met Katelyn Tully, our newest member of our administration team. I know our school community will make Ms Tully feel very welcome. I would also like to welcome Jesse Wastle, Aimee Cooper and Chloe Dabraio who have joined our teaching and ES teams.

Our term four is set to be another busy term for our students as we seek to continue our focus on teaching and learning and ensuring a successful conclusion to our year. In addition, we are undertaking much of the planning and preparation to get ready for a smooth start to our 2027 school year. We have many exciting events and activities throughout the term to complement the teaching and learning programs and celebrate our students' achievements.

For our year 6 students, term four will be their final term of primary school learning before they embark on the next phase of their educational journey at their respective secondary schools.

Many of our year 6 students will be setting their alarms for an early start to arrive at school next Monday at 6:30am to prepare for their departure to Canberra for their weeklong camp. The students and staff are looking forward to a jam-packed week of interesting and fun experiences. I look forward to spending some time with our students in Canberra and sharing their experiences with you.

Congratulations to our year 5 and 6 students for their performances of "Star Warts" at the Cardinia Cultural Centre in our last week of term 3. The time, effort and passion they committed to their rehearsals was demonstrated through their performances on both nights. The singing, choreography, acting and humour involved, resulted in a very enjoyable show. Our students, together with Ms Windust and Ms Balucan can all be very proud of what they were able to achieve.

In the last week of term 3 our PLPS boys teeball team competed in the State Finals at Waverley Softball Centre. This is a remarkable achievement to make their way through to the School Sport Victoria state level. Our boys played well all day and came up against some tough opposition in their games. The team continued their great form into the grand final. After a close game they were runners up. It was an incredible effort, well done to all the team members. Thanks to Mr Vann and our parents who supported our students to participate in this competition.

The beginning of term 4 does also signify the need for all our students to be wearing their sunhats. The wearing of sunhats is an excellent habit to develop and one that we strongly encourage at school. I would ask all parents to assist us in developing this important life skill and habit by ensuring their child always has a hat at school. If parents require a school sunhat for their child, they may be purchased from the PSW store in Berwick or at the school office.

This week we have commenced the next stage of our Transition Program for the new Prep students who will begin their schooling here at the beginning of 2027. Staff have been conducting some assessments to gain a snapshot of the students' readiness for school. The areas covered include fine and gross motor skills, language development and social readiness. The assessments assist with our planning, staffing and preparations for the start of 2027.

Our formal transition sessions will begin on Wednesday, November 4th, whereby students will come along to participate in some sessions during the school day. The students have been invited to participate in two sessions, providing opportunities to become familiar with our learning spaces and some of our activities and routines.

An information afternoon for parents and carers of 2027 Prep students will be held at the school on Wednesday, October 28th at 4pm. The session will provide parents with an overview of what can be expected in relation to their child starting school together with the distribution of relevant documentation.

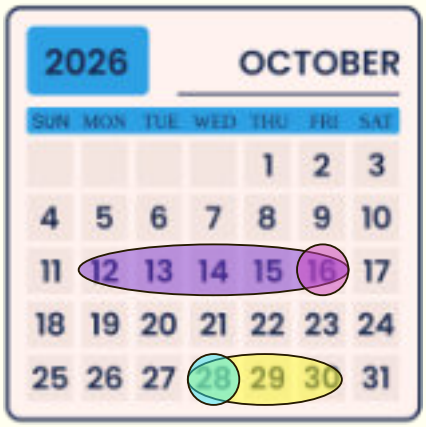
As mentioned, planning for 2027 is currently underway. Having the correct information, particularly student enrolment numbers, is a core element influencing the needs and resources required. If you are aware of any families who are considering PLPS for their child next year, it would be much appreciated if you could encourage them to contact our school and discuss their enrolment. In addition, if you are aware that your child will not be attending our school next year, could you please contact our school office on 5940-9532 to let us know. Thank you for your support and assistance with this important part of our planning for the future.

Year level newsletters for term 4 will be distributed to students and posted on Compass next Friday, October 16th. This newsletter shares information with families regarding the teaching and learning that will take place in each year level this term. It will also outline special events students will have the opportunity to participate in throughout the term.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains

Principal

Diary Dates









Monday 12th - Friday 16th October: Year 6 Canberra Camp

Friday 16th October: Cardinia Division Cricket Blast & Volleyball finals (selected students)

Wednesday 28th October: 2027 Prep Parent Info Session 4-5pm

Wednesday 28th - Friday 30th October: Year 4 Woorabinda Camp

Tuesday 3rd November: Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium



Friday 23rd October 9am

Thursday 5th November 9am

Wednesday 18th November 9am

Monday 30th November 9am

Hats

Hats are part of our school uniform in both Term 1 and Term 4 of the school year.

It is strongly recommended that all students have their hats on when they play at recess and lunch time out in the yard.

Please remember to label your hats too!





Late Arrivals

Every child arriving after the 9am bell must come to the school office to collect a Late Pass to take to their teacher.

Early Leavers

Should parents wish to collect their child/children from school early they must sign them out at the office.

Please allow yourself extra time for collection as we only call students to the office once parents arrive.

Our lunchtime runs from 1:40-2:25pm and it can be extremely difficult for students to hear announcements during this time. If you need to collect your child it may be easier to pick them up before lunch commences or after lunch has finished.



Sharing of food



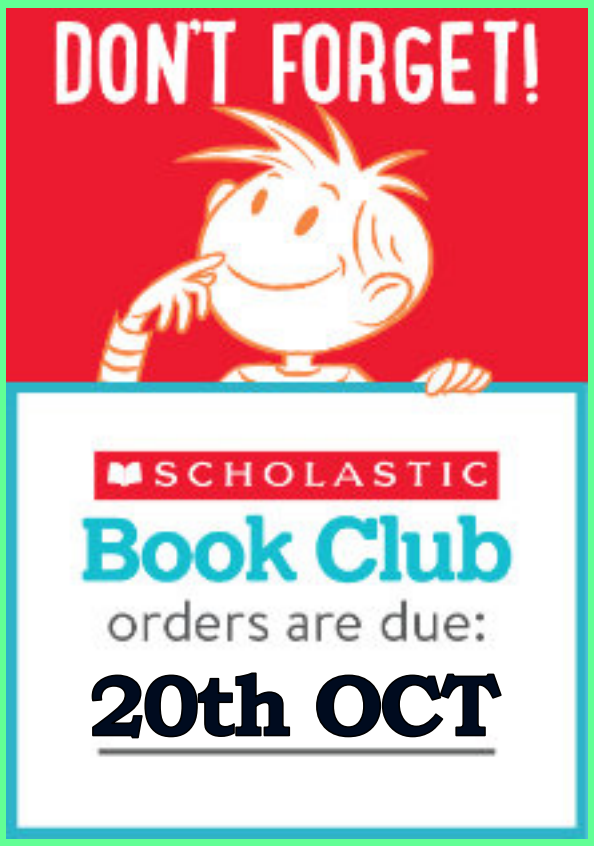




Important message:

Sharing of food items is NOT permitted at PLPS, due to reasons associated with health, safety and family beliefs and choice. Food cannot be distributed to other students: this includes food items to celebrate birthdays. Non-food items can be shared for birthdays, if so desired.

When food items are being used within the teaching and learning programs at school, communications will be posted on Compass to parents and carers outlining the food items being used. Parents will have the option to discuss implications for their child or opt out of these activities.



Icy Pole Fridays

We will be selling lemondade icy poles at lunch time on Fridays during Term 4.

The first lunch time is:
Friday 16th October

Icy poles are $1.50 each and can be purchased from the canteen



MID AUTUMN FESTIVAL



During the final week of Term 3 and Week 1 of Term 4, our students enjoyed learning about and celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival, an important Chinese tradition that celebrates family, togetherness and the full moon.

As part of our celebrations, students had the opportunity to make their own mooncakes using playdough. They learned about the special meaning of mooncakes during the Mid-Autumn Festival and explored different shapes, patterns and designs while creating their own colourful mooncakes. This hands-on activity allowed students to learn about Chinese culture in a fun and creative way.

Students also explored the traditional Chinese art of shadow puppetry. They learned how shadow puppets are made and how puppeteers use light, movement and carefully designed figures to tell stories behind a screen. Students enjoyed experimenting with shadows and discovering how this traditional art form brings characters and stories to life.

Through these activities, students developed their understanding of Chinese traditions while having fun, being creative and experiencing different aspects of Chinese culture.



STAR WARTS

If you would like to order a $40 USB copy of our Star Warts Musical please visit or contact the school office on 5940 9532.

Production pictures can also be ordered at the office





Cardinia

Important Information - Parking and Road Safety

Dear Parents and Carers

We have recently been contacted by Cardinia Shire Council regarding a concerning increase in reports regarding illegal parking, dangerous driving and pedestrian safety around schools, across the shire.

Together with Cardinia Shire Council, we wish to remind drivers of the importance of road safety and adhering to the road rules when parking around the school, at pick up and drop off times.

To ensure the safety of all pedestrians, students and members of our school community, we ask that you:

- **Adhere to the road rules:** Do not block the flow of traffic or allow students to get in and out of a vehicle while in the flow of traffic, even if the vehicle is stopped.
- **Park only in designated areas:** Parking is not permitted in or across driveways, on nature strips, no-stopping zones, no-parking zones, bus zones, or areas reserved for staff. Please adhere to all signage and the road rules.
- **Follow drop-off and pick-up procedures:** Use the designated drop-off and pick-up zones to ensure a smooth and safe flow of traffic.
- **Be mindful of pedestrians:** Follow directions from School Crossing Supervisors and take extra caution during peak times when children are arriving or leaving school.
- **Be respectful:** Council Parking Officers are required to conduct regular patrols around schools to ensure safety. Please be respectful, and courteous.

Drivers are advised that any offences detected may lead to the issuing of an infringement notice. This may be affixed to the windscreen or posted via mail.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation on this important Issue.

PLPS is now set up to collect and raise funds through the Victorian Government's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS). This means students and the PLPS community can deposit eligible bottles and cans and help raise money for the school.

CDS Vic is a state-wide recycling program that gives charities and community groups the opportunity to receive donations or to fundraise by hosting a container collection drive – all while keeping the environment clean.

How can I donate my bottles and cans?

Take them to a local collection point

You can transfer your containers at any CDS East refund points. This is our preferred method. Use this link to find your nearest refund point. Our closest refund point to school is the Club Officer Car Park (off Cardinia Rd) or you can go to the big CDS Vic Pakenham Depot at 100 Bald Hill Rd. There are 7 drop off points listed for Pakenham.

Step-by-step instructions

- Download the CDS Vic East App – Apple Store or Google Play and create a profile (you will only need to do this step once)
- Insert your eligible bottles or cans at the refund point
- In the App look up 'Pakenham Lakeside Primary School' under 'Donate your refunds' and press 'Set as refund type'. Your active payout is now set as 'Donation'
- Scan your App barcode at your local machine
- 100% of the refund will go to supporting the students of PLPS!

Your Zone ID Barcode:
C2000074679



RVM: HOW TO USE
1. START BY INSERTING ALL YOUR ELIGIBLE CONTAINERS BOTTOM FIRST



RVM: HOW TO USE
2. ONCE YOU HAVE INSERTED ALL YOUR CONTAINERS CLICK ENTER 'ZONE ID'



RVM: HOW TO USE
3. OPEN (OR DOWNLOAD) THE VIC EAST APP & SCAN 'ZONE ID' BARCODE



RVM: HOW TO USE
4. COLLECT YOUR RECEIPT & YOUR DIGITAL REFUND WILL BE PROCESSED

RETURN IT · CDS VIC · VICTORIA

VICTORIA'S CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME

GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Collect eligible cans, cartons, and bottles and donate them to your local school, community group, or place of worship.

10¢

Eligible



- Aluminium cans
- Plastic bottles
- Glass bottles
- Paperboard cartons (under 1L)
- Steel bottles/cans

Most beverage containers (between 150mL and 3L) made from aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard are eligible.

Ineligible



- Wine and spirit bottles
- Milk containers
- Paperboard cartons (over 1L)
- Cordial bottles

Don't throw these out! Ineligible containers may still be accepted in your kerbside recycling bin.

Every 10 cent container you donate helps your community raise important funds.

Scan the QR code to learn more information in your language:

CDS VIC · VICTORIA State Government

Year 7 2027 Information NIGHT



Wed 14 October 2026

6pm until 7.15pm

Pakenham Secondary College would like to invite our Year 7 2027 families to our Information Night, taking place on Wednesday, 14th October 2026, from 6.00pm to 7.15pm.

Important information about the transition to secondary school will be provided during the evening, including a presentation from Edunet, our Preferred Education Laptop Provider, outlining their 2027 program.

To find out about our **Transition Days, and to register for this event**, please scan the QR code or visit our website at:

pakenhamsc.vic.edu.au

Pakenham SECONDARY COLLEGE

We Grow Through Connection