

NEWSLETTER

13th February 2025

Principal's Report

Once again in 2025, our school newsletter each fortnight will be showcasing the achievements and reflections of our students as they grow and develop through our learning programs and events at PLPS. Each fortnight will feature a particular year level cohort with illustrations of students' work, student reflections or photos and captions of what the children have achieved and enjoyed.

The first showcase, in our newsletter this week, is our Prep cohort of students. It was lovely to see the excitement and smiles of our Prep students enjoying their first couple of weeks at school. Our Prep children have had a positive start to the year and are settling well into the routines and structures associated with attending school, as well as their learning program.

A reminder that our Prep students will be attending school each day of the week, starting as of next Monday, February 17th.

Last Friday our senior students in years 6 and 5 commenced the summer inter-school sport season against other local schools in the district. Our students are representing PLPS in the sports of basketball, cricket, tennis, volleyball, and softball. As well as endeavouring to perform at their best and trying to achieve success, our students are also aware of their responsibilities whenever they represent our school in the wider community. There is an expectation that our students exhibit a strong sense of sportsmanship, respect the umpires and their decision-making in all games and encourage their teammates. We wish them the best of luck throughout the term. Thank you to Mr Vann and Mr Seton for their organisation, ensuring our students have the opportunity to participate in this competition.

One of our whole school events taking place early next term is our FUN RUN, which is our house cross-country running event. Information about this event was posted on Compass yesterday, including how to create online profiles for the fundraising component, thus qualifying for the prizes on offer. If you have any questions or would like assistance with this process, please call the school office. All students from Prep to Year 6 will represent their house at this event as they compete for the PLPS House Cross-Country shield. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours for this event. The FUN RUN is scheduled Tuesday, March 11th.

Every Day Counts – As we begin another school year, it's important to acknowledge the importance of each and every day at school. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day and their attendance patterns at school is one of the major influences on whether your child is likely to achieve their potential at school and then later in life. Research indicates strongly that those students who are frequently absent or late to school are less likely to achieve the maximum potential with their learning. They are also at risk of becoming disconnected from their peers and this has the potential to impact upon their social development within our school community. Our school will continue to support all our students and their families. If you are experiencing difficulties with your child around attending

school, please contact the school so we can support you and continue to assist your child with their learning and development.

Next month our students in years 3 and 5 will sit the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The students will complete the assessments online, except for a paper test for year 3 writing. Our students will participate in tests in writing, reading, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The assessments will begin on Wednesday, March 12th and conclude by Monday, March 24th. The tests, in these various disciplines provides parents with an understanding of how individual students are performing in each curriculum area at the time of testing.

Pamphlets detailing further information for parents, including links to the public demonstration site, will be distributed to our year 3 and year 5 families today via Compass. If you have any questions about your child's participation in the assessments, please contact the school.

NAPLAN testing is just one aspect of our school's assessment and reporting program and this NAPLAN data complements assessment that is conducted on an ongoing basis by our teaching staff in the learning spaces.

Individual student reports will be returned to the school later in 2025 which are then distributed to parents and students.

Each year our School Council elections take place during the first term. This year we have four parent vacancies. Our School Council plays an important role in the progress and development of our school across many areas including governance, educational directions and policy development and ratification. It also monitors our financial situation and oversees our school's operating budget and expenditure programs. School Council is also a forum where important school community issues that impact upon our school and our students can be discussed and analysed.

If you are available and willing to attend a meeting that last 60-90 minutes once a month, have an interest in your child's school and how we can continue to provide an effective and engaging education to our students, this may be an opportunity for you to make a contribution to our school community.

Please note the time frame below for your information:

Wednesday, February 19th – notice of election and call for nominations

Wednesday, March 5th – closing date for nominations, 4:00pm.

If you would like further information or wish to clarify anything, please don't hesitate to contact me at school on 5940-9532

A reminder our "Meet the Teacher" evenings are being conducted next Monday and Tuesday, 3:30pm to 6:30pm. Please book a time with your child's teacher via Compass or contact our school office.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Friday 7th February - Friday 21st March: Summer Interschool Sports
(selected students)

Friday 14th February: Icy Pole Friday commences (Every Friday in Term 1)

Monday 17th February: Prep Students commence full weeks at school

Monday 17th February & Tuesday 18th February: Meet the Teacher Conversations

Tuesday 11th March: School Fun Run

Tuesday 12th March - Monday 24th March: Year 3 & Year 5 Naplan

Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May: Year 5 Beechworth Camp

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.

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Monday 3rd March - 9am

Tuesday 18th March - 9am

Friday 4th April - 9am

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 over this time. If you need to collect them over this period it maybe easier to collect students before lunch commences or after lunch finishes.

If you need to drive to school, get your child into the habit of using the kerbside doors, away from traffic.



Parking Around the School

Street parking is available along Shearwater Drive and Everly Circuit.

Please be courteous to our surrounding residents, when parking, dropping or collecting students from school.

Please DO NOT park in or over driveways.

We ask that you leave enough time to drop off and pick up children in a safe and legal manner.



ICY POLE FRIDAY

First day for Icy poles in Term 1 is: Friday 14th February

Icy Poles are \$1.50 each and can be purchased from the Canteen.

PLPS Bucket Hats



We currently have our old style bucket hats available for sale from the office at the discounted price of \$10.00

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!



"I liked when we went to music." Austin

Welcome to Prep @PLPS

Our Prep students enjoyed their start to school.



"I love playing with my friends" Emily





"I liked playing with the marbles." Kyrie

Welcome to Prep @PLPS

"I liked when we played sport" Alara



MANDARIN

Welcome back to an exciting new year at PLPS! As we begin 2025, our school continues its commitment to learning Mandarin and exploring Chinese culture. To kick off the term, the first two weeks have been dedicated to celebrating Chinese New Year and the Year of the Snake. Through various fun and engaging activities, students have had the chance to dive into the traditions, art, and symbols that make this holiday so special. Let's take a look at how each year group has been celebrating and learning together!



Year 1-2

Understanding the Year of the Snake For Years 1 and 2, the focus has been on the Year of the Snake, a symbol of wisdom and charm in Chinese astrology. The students learnt about the different zodiac signs of animals and how each year is celebrated. To honor the Year of the Snake, the students worked on making snake decorations. They enjoyed bringing their snakes to life using their art skills, all while learning the cultural significance of the animal in Chinese tradition.

Year Prep

The students have been introduced to the rich and colourful traditions of Chinese New Year. They've learnt about the significance of the holiday and the important symbols associated with it. To bring their learning to life, they participated in some hands-on activities like creating Chinese New Year hats and making red envelopes, a tradition in Chinese culture for giving good luck and prosperity. It's been an exciting start to the year, and the students are eager to continue their cultural exploration!



Year 3-4

Celebrating a Worldwide Festival and Reflecting on Our Own Backgrounds, Year 3 and 4 students took their learning a step further by reflecting on how Chinese New Year is celebrated not only in China, but across the globe. Students connected the celebrations to their own cultural backgrounds, discussing the ways in which different countries and communities embrace New Year traditions. In addition to learning about the Year of the Snake, they engaged in fun and creative activities such as completing word searches, and decorating their own snakes. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to share and appreciate the diversity of celebrations around the world!



Year 5-6

In Year 5 and 6, students took on a more advanced challenge by creating paper stretching snakes. This craft helped students develop their fine motor skills while reinforcing their understanding of the Year of the Snake. Students also took the time to reflect on their prior knowledge of China, discussing aspects like the language, culture, and geography. The students enjoyed engaging in meaningful conversations about China and its role in the global community. It was a perfect way to reflect on what they've learned while celebrating the festive atmosphere of the New Year.



We are so proud of all our students for embracing Chinese culture in such a fun and creative way! As we continue our Mandarin journey this year, we look forward to more learning, exploration, and celebration.

**Happy Chinese
New Year!**

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

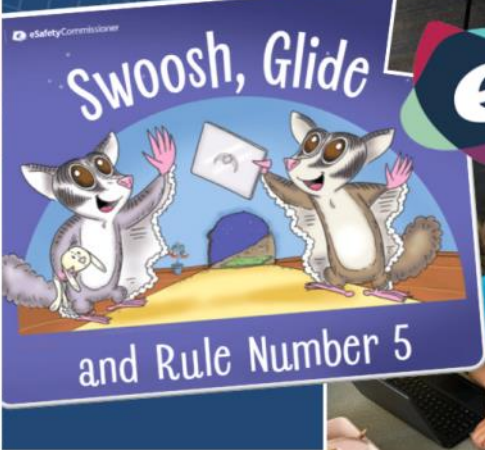
We're excited to showcase learning in Digital Technology!

We study Digital Technologies to shape the future, creating smart solutions that improve how we live. Through design and computational thinking, students develop digital skills while practicing safe and ethical use. We design, code, and create to explore big ideas, share knowledge, and become confident digital creators

By integrating STEAM subjects, students enhance creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. Through coding, robotics, and digital tools, they become active problem-solvers and innovators.

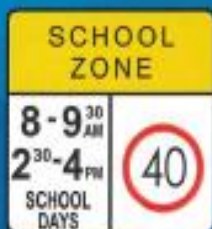
Our school promotes a balanced digital environment, teaching online safety and responsible technology use. Together, we're preparing students for success in an interconnected world.

We look forward to a fantastic year of learning!



School Zone Safety Information

Understanding the signs around school zones



40km/h sign

All school speed limits across the State are clearly signposted. Look out for the speed signs near schools and slow down to improve safety for children.



No parking

It is important that you do not park in any area where this sign is displayed.



Children crossing

When the flags are displayed at a children's crossing, you must stop for pedestrians who are waiting to cross or who have started crossing. You must remain stopped until the crossing is clear. These rules apply even if there is no crossing supervisor.



No stopping

No stopping means you must not stop at the kerb for any reason.



Yellow edge lines

Must not stop or park your vehicle next to a continuous yellow edge line.

Understanding the rules at school crossings

- Please keep the children's crossing clear.
- Parking is not allowed within 20m before a school crossing or 10m after the crossing (unless otherwise signposted). Parking within this area makes it difficult for children and the crossing supervisor to get a clear view of the road.
- It is illegal to double park your car, ie. you are not allowed to stop next to a parked car.

What you can do to ensure school zones remain safe

- Supervise children in or near traffic.
- Consider walking or cycling with your child to and from school.
- Respect the road rules and parking signs.
- Wait on the same side of the road as your child, to avoid your child dashing across the road to meet you.
- Get your child into the habit of using the car's kerbside doors, away from the traffic.



OSH Club



Come & Try!

2025 Preps

WE ARE EXCITED TO SHARE OUR DESIGNATED 2025 PREP TRANSITION SESSION TO WELCOME THIS YEARS NEW PREPS INTO THE PROGRAM!

CHILDREN CAN BE BOOKED INTO THE PROGRAM VIA THE KIDSOFT PARENT PORTAL! FAMILIES ARE ALSO WELCOME TO POP IN WITH CHILDREN TO COME AND JOIN IN

MAD SCIENTIST EXPERIMENTS

SCENTED PLAYDOUGH

PHOTOBOOTH

THURSDAY 8:00-9:00 RISE THEN SHINE

Enrol for lessons at P.L.P.S for 2025

Phone Jared Longfield: 0411 083 631

MUSIC LESSONS



Group Lessons

\$15 a week during school terms

Individual Lessons

\$25 a week during school terms

Learn keyboard or guitar during school hours.

Enrol at anytime.
Commencement date to be advised



MAESTRO'S CORNER

ENROL: maestrocorner.mymusicstaff.com



**TERM 1, 2025
SOCCER FUN
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MITE-E SOCCER (2-3YO)

A great introduction to Soccer!
Children work with their parents to
learn new soccer skills and develop
their motor skills! Lots of fun games
in a non-competitive environment!

**40 MINUTE CLASSES
\$175 FOR 8 WEEKS**



PINT SIZE SOCCER (4-5YO)

Children take their first kicks in soccer! They'll
be introduced to shooting, dribbling, goal
keeping and more. Children get to play lots
of fun, skill based games. Grasshoppers get
introduced to Pint Size 1v1 Big Game!

**40 MINUTE CLASSES
\$175 FOR 8 WEEKS**



INTRO TO MICRO (5-6YO) MICRO (6-8YO)

The ultimate challenge for young
soccer players! They'll learn the rules
of the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game
and develop their skills in passing,
dribbling, shooting and more!

**INTRO - 60 MINS \$185 FOR 8 WEEKS
MICRO - 60 MINS \$185 FOR 8 WEEKS**



MICRO PLUS (8-12YO)

This program focuses on skill development and teamwork
in preparation for club soccer. Children
will enjoy all the favourite soccer based
games, fine tune their skills as well as
play the Grasshopper Soccer Big Game!

**60 MINUTE CLASSES
\$185 FOR 8 WEEKS**




M: 0413 781 900 | GRASSHOPPERSOCCER.COM.AU/BERWICK

E: berwick@grasshoppersoccer.com.au

 /GRASSHOPPERSOCCERBERWICK



 SCAN ME



Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____
 Parent/Guardians Name: _____
 Address: _____ Suburb: _____ P/Code: _____
 Phone: _____ Mobile: _____
 Email: _____

TERM 1 CENTRES: (Please Tick)

- HERITAGE COLLEGE, OFFICER**
66 Starling Rd, Officer, VIC 3809
8 week program starting on the 11th February
- HERITAGE COLLEGE, NARRE WARREN**
333 Centre Rd, Narre Warren South, VIC 3805
8 week program starting on the 13th February

- NARRE WARREN SOUTH P-12 COLLEGE**
79-125 Amberly Park drive, NWS, VIC 3805
8 week program starting on the 15th February
- GLENEAGLES SECONDARY SCHOOL**
58 Reema Boulevard, Endeavour Hills, VIC 3802
8 week program starting on the 15th February
- NARRE WARREN SOUTH P-12 COLLEGE**
79-125 Amberly Park drive, NWS, VIC 3805
8 week program starting on the 16th February

PROGRAMS: (Please Tick)

	<input type="checkbox"/> MITE-E (2-3 YO)	<input type="checkbox"/> PINT SIZE (4-5 YO)	<input type="checkbox"/> INTRO TO MICRO (5-6 YO)	<input type="checkbox"/> MICRO (6-8 YO)	<input type="checkbox"/> MICRO PLUS (8-12 YO)
CLASS TIMES	MITE-E	PINT SIZE	INTRO TO MICRO	MICRO	MICRO PLUS
HERITAGE OFFICER - TUES	N/A	N/A	5.00 - 6.00pm	5.00 - 6.00pm	5.00 - 6.00pm
HERITAGE NW - THURS	N/A	N/A	5.00 - 6.00pm	5.00 - 6.00pm	5.00 - 6.00pm
NARRE WARREN SOUTH - SAT	9.00 - 9.40am	9.00 - 9.40am	9.00 - 10.00am	9.00 - 10.00am	9.00 - 10.00am
GLENEAGLES SS - SAT	11.00 - 11.40am	11.00 - 11.40am	11.00 - 12.00pm	11.00 - 12.00pm	11.00 - 12.00pm
NARRE WARREN SOUTH - SUN	9.00 - 9.40am	9.00 - 9.40am	9.00 - 10.00am	9.00 - 10.00am	9.00 - 10.00am
TERM FEE	\$175	\$175	\$185	\$185	\$185

PAYMENT OPTIONS: CASH, BANK TRANSFER OR CREDIT CARD | (Grasshopper Soccer has a **NO REFUND** Policy)

Please Note: Payments with cc will incur a 1.7% processing fee

Name: **TTAR Investments Pty Ltd** BSB: **063 162** Acc: **1084 1538** Reference: Childs name

Credit Card Payment (please circle): Visa Master Card | Credit Cards processed as Grasshopper Soccer

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____ / _____ CVV: _____

ADD: Grasshopper Soccer Shirt & Shorts - Enrolment Special \$65 (Size - Please Circle) **XXS** **XS** **S** **M** **L**

Parent/Guardian Consent: I hereby authorize Grasshopper Soccer to act on my behalf should my child require medical attention, and release Grasshopper Soccer from any liability for injury incurred by my child at Grasshopper Soccer programs. Photos/Videos of children attending these programs may be used for reasonable promotional purposes by Grasshopper Soccer.

Please Tick: Yes No

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____



ENROLMENT SPECIAL \$ _____

TERM FEE \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____



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 Pakenham, VIC 3810

OUR SERVICE

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- Boxing Bags ✓
- Recovery Centre ✓

JOIN WINTER SEASON

2025

WE ARE RECRUITING

Come join us at Phoenix Basketball Club for this winter season. We invite you to join our team, Catering to both junior & senior teams. welcoming individuals with diverse levels of experience. Please see below the QR code linking to the expression of interest on our Facebook page.

AGE GROUPS AVAILABLE

under 8's boys/girls seniors mixed
under 10's boys/girls senior womens
under 12's boys/girls senior mens
under 14's boys/girls
under 16's boys/girls
under 18's boys/girls

