

NEWSLETTER

22nd May 2025

Principal's Report

Our students and staff have had an enjoyable week engaging in activities promoting and celebrating the learning at PLPS throughout education week. The cross-age Culture and STEM projects involving collaboration in designs and construction provided opportunities for students to learn with different students and staff. The students have shared that they enjoyed co-operating with others to construct their bridges, and we are looking forward to seeing the collation of our story cloth on display. A special edition newsletter will also be produced and posted tomorrow, sharing our highlights with the school community.

I would like to thank everyone who has taken the opportunity to visit our Book Fair which has been set up in our school library. This is a great opportunity to purchase some books for your children to enjoy at home. Thank you also to those people who have purchased a book and then kindly donated it to our library collection. We will be very pleased to acknowledge your generosity with a note inside the book. Any funds that are raised through our Book Fair are used to purchase further titles that can be placed in our library for students to read and borrow. Tomorrow after school, will be the final opportunity for our students and parents to visit the Book Fair. Thank you to everyone for your support this week.

On Tuesday, our Year 1 students participated in an excursion to MoPA - Sandringham (Museum of Play and Art). The visit provides an opportunity for the students to use explorative learning to support their scientific understanding in their current learning. Their science unit 'Bright and Loud' has students exploring how light and sound are used by a range of sources and how they can be sensed. Students thoroughly enjoyed climbing through the 'MoPA City', the dance party and building towers with the blocks. A highlight was watching the teachers go down the slide.

Our Prep students enjoyed a visit by CARP productions on Wednesday this week. The incursion involved a Circus themed performance connected with their Social and Emotional Learning Unit about friendship and how our personal strengths make us unique and special in a variety of ways. The students particularly enjoyed the dancing and the opportunity to join the performers as part of the show.

Last Friday, May 16th, our school captains and cultural captains participated in the 2025 Cardinia Network Koorie Cultural Leaders Conference where they had the opportunity to learn more about leadership, develop cultural understanding and work with students from schools across the Cardinia Network. Our students had the opportunity to meet the Mayor and tour the Cardinia Council building.

One of our key priorities is to ensure all staff remain aware of and informed about information and research around teaching practices and approaches that impact positively upon our students' learning.

One of the key sets of data which enables us to evaluate how effectively we are achieving this goal is student feedback. One of the major tools we use to gather this important data is the Student

Attitudes to School survey which is completed annually by our students in years 4 – 6.

This survey is conducted online and will provide our school leadership team with important information that will be considered when we are making future decisions around staffing, professional learning and development, resourcing of future programs and curriculum development.

The survey's framework is developed around the following key domains:

- effective and engaging teaching practices
- teacher/student relationships
- student learner characteristics
- social engagement
- student safety

The survey opened on Monday and students will complete this over the next two weeks. Once our student responses are completed and aggregated, we will be able to access our school's report to inform our discussions. I look forward to sharing the findings from the survey with our school community.

Our second school performance in 2025 will be at the Cardinia Cultural Centre starring our prep and year 1 students. Children and staff have been working hard in Performing Arts classes learning and rehearsing their songs for "Follow Your Dreams" being performed on the evenings of Wednesday, June 11th and Thursday, June 12th. Important information was posted recently regarding the purchasing of tickets. All tickets for PLPS concerts at the CCC need to be purchased through their ticketing system. This can be done online, via phone or in person at the CCC. For further information please contact CCC on 1300 887 624. Their operating hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 4.30pm.

At the end of week 7, Friday, June 6th, one of our Year 2 teachers, Ms Bree Hunt will be leaving us for a period of time, as she commences her maternity leave. We wish Bree all the best with the new addition to her family. Ms Brooke Wilks will take on the responsibility as the home group teacher for 2H for the remainder of 2025.

A reminder that next Wednesday, Friday May 28th, is a curriculum day. Students do not attend school on this day. On this day, staff will focus on the implementation of elements of the Victorian Teaching and Learning Model, that will continue to further support our students. Our OSHClub will be operating a full day's program to support our parents and families on this day. If you require this service you are encouraged to contact OSHClub on 0438 559 017 to book your child's place.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Friday 9th May - Friday 6th June: Winter Interschool Sports
(selected students)

Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd May: Education Week & Book Fair
(Book Fair open 8:30am - 9:00am & 3:15pm - 4:00pm)

Wednesday 28th May: Curriculum Day (students do not attend school on this day)

Thursday 29th & Friday 30th May: Year 4 Hands on Science Incursion

Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th June: Junior Concert - 'Follow Your Dreams'

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Wednesday 4th June - 9am

Thursday 19th June - 9am

Friday 4th July - 9am

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 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:

- 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.

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

Providing spare clothes for your child

As we approach the cooler and wet months our grounds can become wet and muddy. It is a great idea to pack a spare set of clothing in your child's school bag so that they can change into should they require a change of clothes at recess and/or lunchtime. This saves getting a phone call during the day to bring some spare clothes up to school for your child.

Spare clothes are a great idea for children of all ages - **even the big kids!**

Years 4 - 6 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



IN WEEK 2, ALL STUDENTS FROM YEARS 4 TO 6 PARTICIPATED IN OUR PLPS HOUSE ATHLETICS AT EDWIN FLACK ATHLETICS TRACK IN BERWICK. STUDENTS COMPETED IN BOTH TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS AND HAD A GREAT DAY CHALLENGING THEMSELVES. CONGRATULATIONS TO WATERFORD WHO WAS OUR ATHLETICS HOUSE CHAMPION ON THE DAY. BIG THANK YOU TO ALL STAFF AND PARENTS WHO ATTENDED.



MANDARIN

A Journey Through Language and Culture



Prep – First Steps in Mandarin

Prep students began their Mandarin journey through fun and engaging activities. They learned how to greet and farewell their teachers using simple phrases. They also explored Chinese culture by learning about **Chinese New Year**, the story of **giant pandas**, and other fun facts about the **People’s Republic of China**.



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Yī (1) Èr (2) Sān (3) Sì (4) Wǔ (5)

六 七 八 九 十

Liù (6) Qī (7) Bā (8) Jiǔ (9) Shí (10)

Year 1 & 2 – Numbers and Colours

In Term 1, Year 1 and Year 2 students were introduced to **numbers and colours in Mandarin**. Through songs, nursery rhymes, and games, students built their understanding of counting from 1 to 100 in Mandarin. These interactive experiences helped lay a strong foundation in both speaking and listening skills.

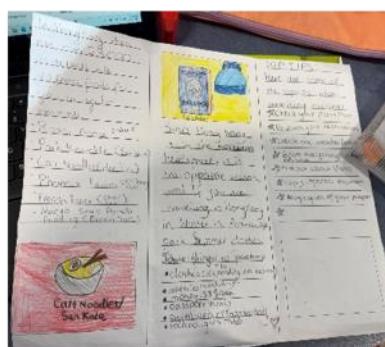
Year 3 & 4 – Describing the World Around Us

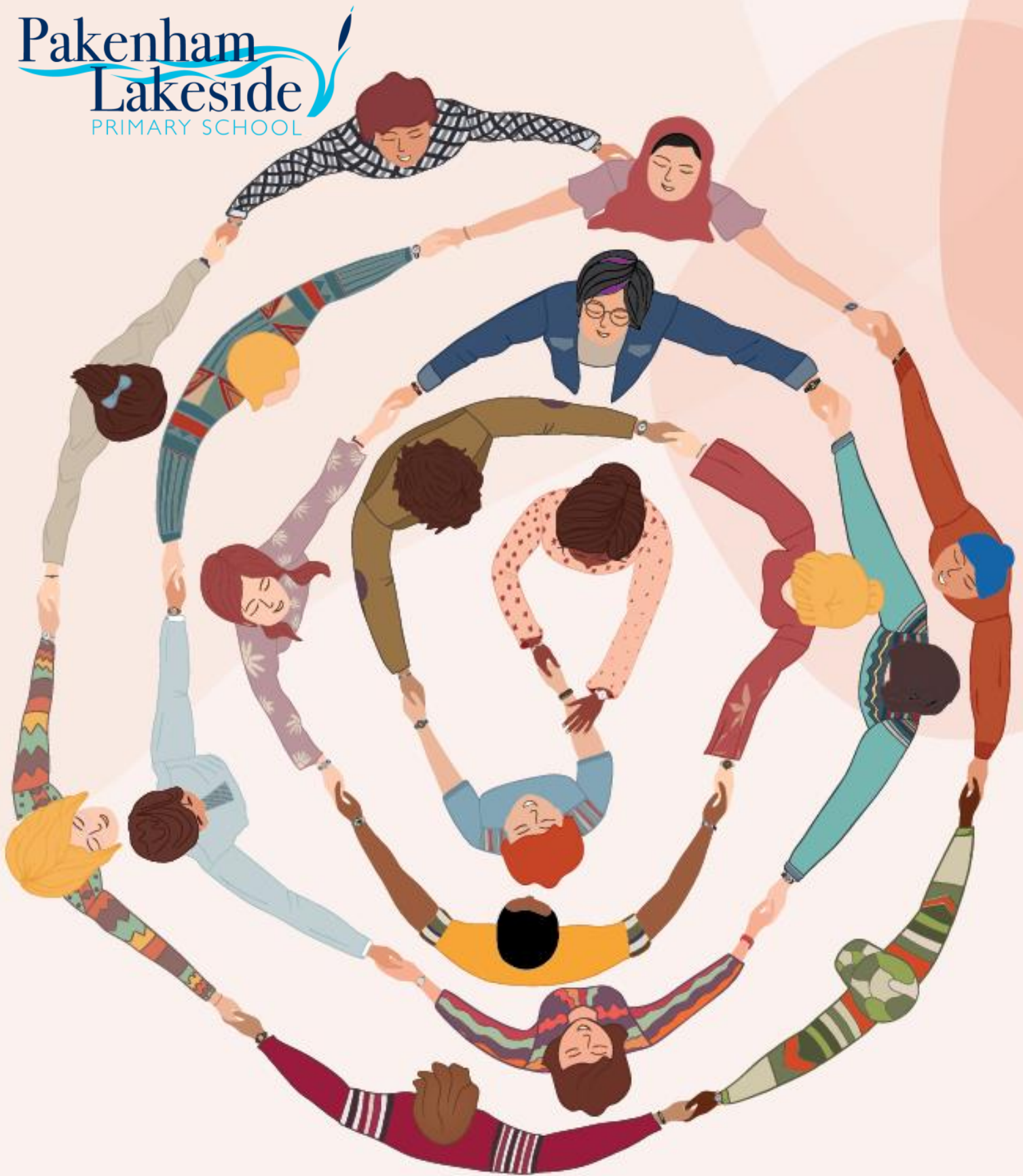
Year 3 and 4 students focused on learning **body parts** and **describing words** in Mandarin. They practiced using descriptive phrases to talk about people and everyday objects. Students enjoyed using these phrases in creative class activities to describe drawings.



Year 5 & 6 – Exploring China through Research

Upper primary students took their Mandarin learning to the next level by using **print and digital resources** such as **maps, menus, brochures, and itineraries** to explore China. They identified key information and created their own **informative brochures** about **iconic Chinese landmarks and tourist attractions**, such as the Great Wall, the Terracotta Army, and the Forbidden City.





Celebration of cultures

Education Week
19–23 May 2025

Education Week

19–23 May 2025

One of the major events in our second term calendar is Education Week where we have the opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the achievements of our students. Education Week will commence on Monday, May 19th and concludes on Friday May 23rd. All children deserve a place to learn and thrive in. This year's theme *Celebration of Cultures* highlights the diversity of our communities and the importance of every child feeling safe and welcome at school.

Students will be participating in a variety of activities throughout the week. An Education Week special edition newsletter will also be produced showcasing our students' achievements.

Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd May - Book Fair

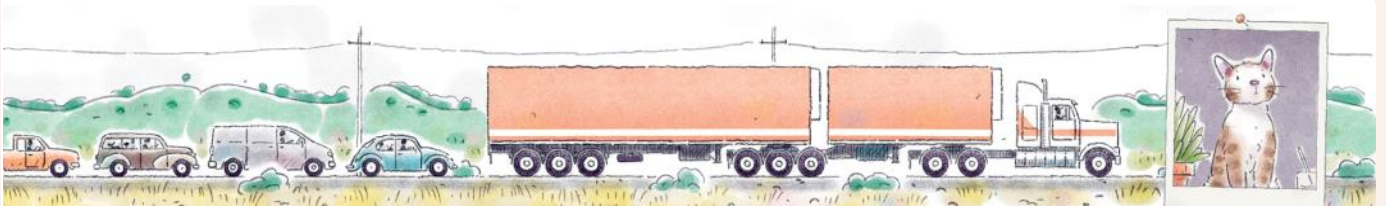
We will be conducting our Lamont Book Fair over five days. Students and families have the opportunity to purchase quality literature to read and enjoy together. Any families may also like to purchase a book to donate to our school library. Any donations will be acknowledged with a label placed inside the book. The Book Fair will be open on each of the days from 8:30-9:00am and 3:15-4:00pm.

Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd May - Collaborative cultural challenges

On Wednesday and Thursday all students will have the opportunity to explore different learning spaces around our school and engage in cross-age, collaborative cultural challenges. Teamwork, creativity and problem solving skills will be used in these sessions as students work together to solve two different problems.

Wednesday 21st May - National Simultaneous Storytime

The Truck Cat is a story about cats and humans, immigration and identity, and homes lost and found. Along with his human, Yacoub, Tinka travels roads wide and narrow, near and distant. But no matter how much they travel, home feels very far away – for both of them. When Tinka and Yacoub are unexpectedly separated, they are determined to find their way back to each other – and, in doing so, might find more than they expected ...



Friday 23rd May - Newsletter

A special edition of our school newsletter will be distributed via Compass to share the highlights from the week.



Shape your future waste services!

Have your say on the future of waste services in Cardinia Shire, including household bin frequency, the proposed glass only service, hard waste collection and green waste disposal.

Council is renewing their [Waste Resource and Recovery Strategy](#). This strategy serves as a 10-year roadmap for the future direction of Council's waste services, education and advocacy.

Community feedback will help create a draft strategy. In early 2026, the community will be invited to share their thoughts on the draft, before the strategy is finalised.

You can provide feedback until Wednesday 9 July by:
filling out the [online survey](#)
attending an in-person pop-up session

More info: [Shape our future waste services webpage](#)



PLPS PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION



DO YOU LOVE TO
TALK, SHARE IDEAS,
OR TAKE ON A
CHALLENGE? THEN
THIS IS FOR YOU!

Calling All Confident Communicators!

Our school is once again participating in the Lions Club Public Speaking Competition, and we want YOU to be involved! Our PLPS Public Speaking Competition 2025 is open to Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Students

Topics:

Year 3 & 4: "Creative Invention"

- If you could invent something new, what would it be? What does it do? Who would use it? Let your imagination run wild in a 3-minute speech!

Year 5 & 6: "Technology"

- Is technology moving too fast? Explore its impact on our lives and the environment.
- Choose any tech (smartphones, AI, social media, etc.) and share your thoughts in a 4-minute speech!

Important Dates:

- Lunchtime Practice Sessions with Mr Runting and Mrs Allan
 - Monday 23rd June
 - Monday 30th June
 - Monday 21st July (Term 3)

• **PLPS School Competition:**

- Thursday 24th July 2025

From our school competition, we'll select two students from Year 3/4 and two from Year 5/6 to represent PLPS at the Lions Club level!

★ **Why Participate?**

- Build your confidence
- Boost your writing & research skills
- Improve your ability to speak in front of an audience
- And most importantly... have FUN!

We encourage as many students as possible to give it a go — you might surprise yourself!

**GOT THE GIFT OF THE GAB? ARE
YOU A CHATTERBOX? JOIN IN!**



Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts for 2025 are \$154 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

It is important that funding made available in 2025 supports students to participate in school trips, camps and sporting activities this year rather than being held for future years. This funding can also be used in conjunction with any funding accrued from previous years.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Please complete an application form and return it to our school office along with a copy of your relevant card (your card can be copied at the office). **Applications for the CSEF program for 2025 close on Friday 4th July 2025.**

You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page - <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund/resources>.

Please check with our school office if you are unsure and return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kerrie Kingston-Gains', written in a cursive style.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Camps, Sports and Excursions fund eligibility

Below are the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a mature minor of sixteen years of age or over, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one; or
 - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder; or
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent; and
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef/eligibility)

Mature minors or parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and seventeen years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and eighteen years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students' attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooling, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders, CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (see [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Policy | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef/policy)).

Payment amounts

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

The CSEF is paid directly the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the policy for the current rates.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef/payment-amounts)

Foundation and Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents, so please register your interest at the school.

How to complete the application form

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund APPLICATION Form

Pakenham Lakeside Primary School

5504

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

Foster parent* **OR** Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card.

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Victorian Department of Education (DE) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry about my Centrelink customer details and concession card status to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) to provide the results of any enquiry to DE regarding temporary care orders.

I understand that:

- DFFH or Centrelink will use information I have provided to DE to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DE personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- This consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DFFH and provide it to my child's school so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- If I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DE.
- Information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to DFFH and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You can request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____ Date / /

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