Pakenham Lakeside PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter
22nd October 2026

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Principal's Report

Friday October 30th is World Teachers' Day, and next Friday we will be celebrating this special occasion with our students and staff. This day provides an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions our teachers make to our school community. On behalf of our school community, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication, commitment and passion our teachers bring to their work each day. Through their care, encouragement and engaging learning programs, they inspire our students to develop their knowledge, skills, creativity, curiosity and resilience. Thank you for the patience, care and ongoing support you provide enabling optimum opportunities for our students to thrive and reach their full potential.

Our students are currently working hard with Ms Lowndes and Ms Kacew-Brown to finalise some artworks for the PLPS Art Show. We are looking forward to showcasing and celebrating our students' artwork on opening night Monday, November 30th at the Cardinia Cultural Centre. The show will open at 3:30pm and will conclude at 7:00pm. Save the date on your calendars. Information relating to the events and times will be posted on Compass soon.

Last week, our Year 6 students and staff enjoyed an action-packed week of engaging in memorable experiences at their camp in Canberra. I was delighted to join the group for two days and thoroughly enjoyed sharing in some of these experiences with our students.

During our visit, we had the opportunity to observe proceedings in the High Court of Australia, and our visit coincided with a sitting week of Parliament. Being able to observe both the Senate and the House of Representatives during Question Time was a particularly unique and valuable experience, providing our students with a firsthand insight into Australia's democratic processes.

The manner in which our students conducted themselves throughout the camp and during visits to the various attractions was something our entire school community can be very proud of. They consistently demonstrated courtesy, respect and politeness in their interactions with educators and guides, while also showing consideration for members of the public visiting these important sites.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all staff members who contributed their time, energy and commitment to making this camp such a successful and rewarding experience for our students.

Our year 4 students and staff are excited to be heading off for their three-day camp at Woorabinda next Wednesday. Nestled in the heart of nature, our students will have the opportunity to further develop their personal growth and resilience through the opportunity to have a go at some challenging and new activities such as the high ropes course, canoeing and flying fox. On arrival the first day, students will be walking into a beautiful bush setting where they will prepare and cook their own lunch. We look forward to hearing and sharing their experiences on their return.

Last Friday, October 16th, our Boys Cricket Blast team and our Girls Volleyball team played in the Cardinia Division Finals. Our teams qualified for this event as they were Champions at the District Summer Lightning Premiership Day at the end of term 1. Both teams played in a round robin tournament and had a very enjoyable day. The girls volleyball team finished third overall and the boys cricket team were runners up. Thanks to Mr Vann for his organisation and to Mr Collins and Mr O'Brien for coaching and supporting the teams on the day.

Next Thursday, October 29th, all families with students currently in Prep to Year Five will receive information via Compass for book packs and voluntary contributions for 2027. As indicated in this information, our **book packs will need to be ordered online.** If parents are wanting to order the student book packs through our preferred supplier Maxim, **orders need to be placed and paid for by Sunday, December 27th, 2026.** If you believe ordering and paying for book packs by this date could be problematic for your family, please call the school on 5940 9532 and speak to Jo, our Business Manager, who can assist with ordering and payment plans. All the book packs ordered will be delivered to the students' learning spaces ready for them to access and use on their first day of the 2027 school year. If you have any questions relating to the book packs or voluntary contributions, please call our school office.

The end of the school year is a busy time. Some dates you may like to add to your calendar are Year 6 Graduation on Tuesday, December 8th. And our Christmas concert will be on Wednesday, December 16th, weather permitting. The concert will begin at 9:15am and is expected to conclude at approximately 10:45am. Further information will be shared closer to the date.

Today we farewell Ms Tam Balucan for a period of time, as she commences her maternity leave. We wish Tam all the best as she begins her family leave.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Diary Dates









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

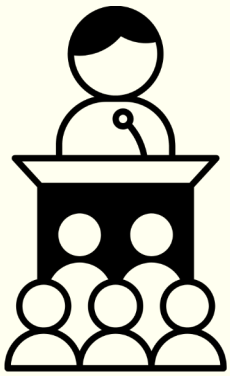
Monday 30th November: Art Show 3:30-7pm @CCC

Tuesday 8th December: Year 6 Graduation

Wednesday 16th December: Christmas Concert

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.

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



CARDINIA DIVISION FINALS





On Friday 16th October, our Girls Volleyball and Boys Cricket Blast teams played in the Cardinia Division Summer Finals.

Our volleyballers came third overall and our cricket team were Runners Up. This was an amazing effort as some of the team had just put their hand up to play due to the Year 6's being on camp.

Thank you to Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Collins for supporting and coaching the teams during the day. We are proud of the effort of both teams.

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

CDS681.25