Pakenham Lakeside PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter
23rd April 2026

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03 5940 9532

Principal's Report

Welcome back to school for Term 2 for another productive and exciting term of teaching and learning. At assembly on Tuesday there was an outline of many additional opportunities for our students to look forward to throughout this term, including, camps, swimming program, incursions, excursions, sporting events and school performances. On behalf of our community, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students and their families who have commenced their schooling at PLPS this term.

Yesterday our students in Years 4, 5 and 6 participated in our House Athletics Carnival at the Edwin Flack Athletics Track in Berwick. The lovely weather provided the perfect conditions for an enjoyable and busy day, with students and staff enthusiastically competing in and officiating a wide range of events. Thank you to Mr Vann and Mrs Kacew-Brown for their organisation and preparation that enabled the carnival to proceed very smoothly. Thank you to all the teachers and education staff who supported the event; everyone played a vital role in ensuring a positive and enjoyable day for our students. I would also like to extend my thanks to the many parents who attended the athletics day and provided support and encouragement to our students as they competed.

The House results for our Athletics Carnival will be shared with the students at our next assembly.

The first of our school camps for 2026 is our Year 5 students heading to the Old Priory School Camp in Beechworth on **Tuesday May 5th to Friday May 8th.** The camp will provide our students with learning experiences directly related to our history inquiry topic. This unit of work enables our students to explore events that have shaped our nation's culture, as well as examining the impact of immigration on our country's growth and development. They will have the opportunity to explore the historic town of Beechworth, reflect on the economic impact of the gold rush on Australia's early economy, investigate early methods of communication and learn about the life and times of Ned Kelly. I am looking forward to sharing some of the experiences with our students and staff in Beechworth soon.

One of the ways that some students can be supported to participate in these invaluable learning experiences is through the Camps, Sport and Excursions Fund (CSEF). This funding is provided to support eligible families to cover the costs or part of the expenses of excursions and incursions, camps and sporting events and activities. If a parent holds a valid Concession Card, Department of Veteran Affairs Card or is a foster parent, they may be eligible for CSEF. The funds are paid to our school and can be used towards expenses of authorised events. Each eligible primary child is allocated $400. Application forms are available from our school office or may be downloaded from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. Applications must be processed by Friday, June 27th.

Next Monday our Year 2 swimming program will commence at Cardinia Life, Pakenham. The students will be participating in an eight-day program concluding on Friday 8th May. Information pertaining to dates and items required for students to bring have been communicated with families via Compass. There is no cost for the swimming program, as this is currently being subsidised by the Department of Education.

Next Friday, May 1st, our senior students in Years Five and Six will commence the winter sport inter-school season against other local schools in the district. The competition will be conducted on Friday mornings throughout Term 2 at PLPS or the school we are versing. Our students will be representing PLPS in the sports of netball, soccer, football and t-ball. Our students will continue to demonstrate strong sportsmanship by respecting umpires' decisions and encouraging all competitors. Thank you to Mr Vann for his organisation, ensuring our students have the opportunity to participate in this competition.

At the beginning of Term 2, our enrolment process for 2027 Prep students commenced. We have already had a significant number of inquiries regarding Prep enrolments and the process around enrolling at PLPS. All applications for enrolment are through an online process. Information and links are located on our school website. Information about the enrolment process is also available for collection from our general office. We will be conducting school tours and information sessions for parents commencing from Tuesday, April 28th. Interested parents are asked to contact our office on 5940 9532 to register their attendance to visit and view our school on their preferred date.

All our year 6 students should have received their individual Year 7 placement information packs containing instructions for enrolment into secondary school for 2027. The placement application forms need to be completed and returned to school no later than Friday, May 8th. It is very important that parents ensure the application forms are returned by this date so we can forward the requests on to each relevant secondary college. Thanking you in advance for your assistance and support in this important process.

Every Day Counts – As we begin another school term, 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 strongly indicates 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.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Diary Dates







Monday 27th April - Friday 8th May: Year 2 Swimming (Cardinia Life)
(Note: No swimming on Wednesdays)

Friday 1st May - Friday 12th June: Winter Interschool Sports
(selected students)

Tuesday 5th to Friday 8th May: Year 5 Beechworth Camp

Wednesday 6th May: Mother's Day Stall

Wednesday 6th May: District Cross Country (selected students)

Friday 15th May: Curriculum Day (students do not attend on this day)

Wednesday 20th May: Prep CARP Incursion

Wednesday 20th May: Girls AFL Day (selected students)

Monday 25th to Friday 29th May: Education Week and Book Fair

Assembly Dates



Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Monday 11th May 9am

Wednesday 27th May 9am

Tuesday 9th June 9am

Friday 26th June 9am

Change of clothes

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**!





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 over this time. If you need to collect them over this period it may be easier to collect students before lunch commences or after lunch finished.



Sharing of food



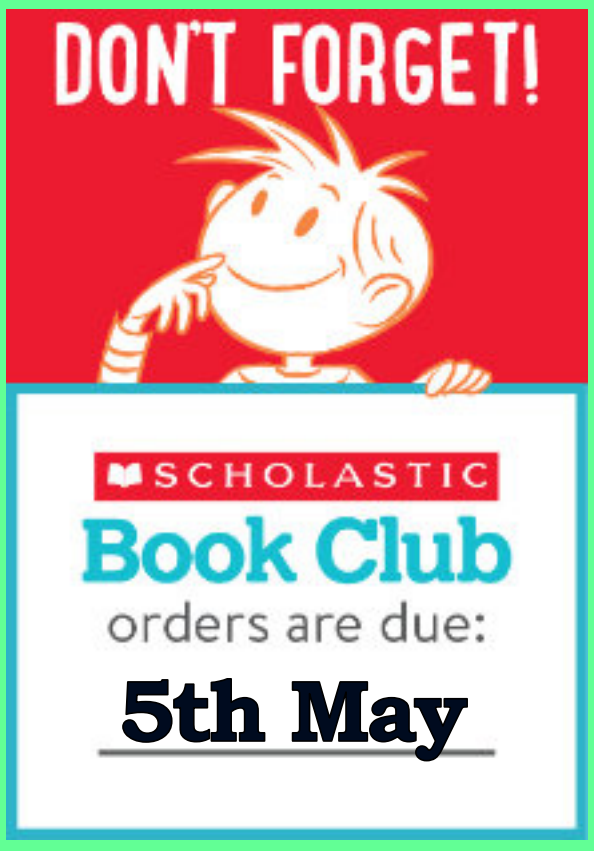


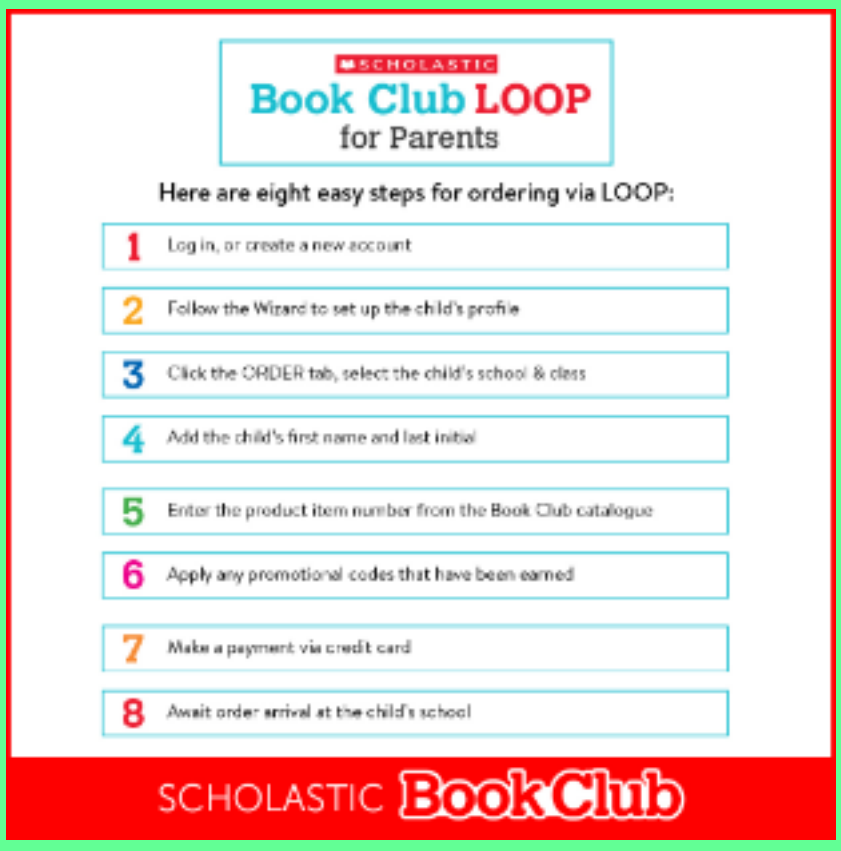


Important message:

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.





YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER

Galaxy of Stars Dance Concert

Last term, the Year 4s performed at the Cardinia Cultural Centre for their Galaxy of Stars Dance Concert, alongside our Year 2 and 3 students.

Students lit up the stage with their energy and enthusiasm, showcasing routines they have been working hard on during their Performing Arts lessons with the wonderful Miss Windust and Ms Balucan. From upbeat, high-energy performances to more expressive pieces, each group brought their own sparkle and personality. It was wonderful to see students demonstrating confidence, teamwork and a real joy for performing. We are so proud of the way the Year 4 students supported one another and embraced the experience. A big thank you to our staff for their organisation and guidance, and to families for their ongoing support. Well done to all our shining stars—you truly made it a performance to remember!











4A DANCE IN THE DARK
4L STARLIGHT
4M TOWARDS THE SUN
4SN SHOOTING STARS









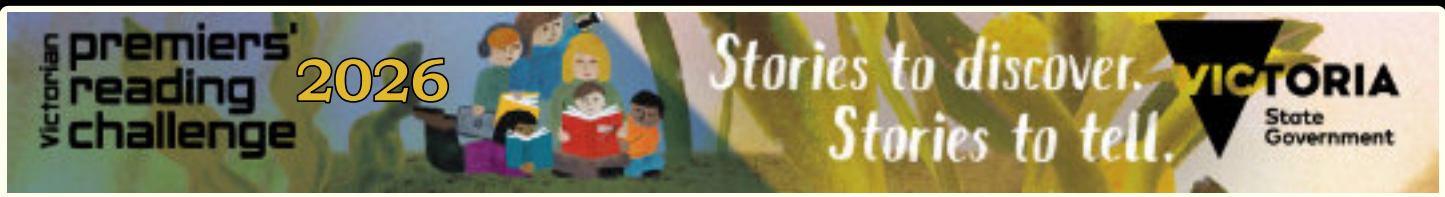


Dear Parents and Students,

Pakenham Lakeside Primary School proudly participates in the Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge initiative. It runs in yearly cycles and is a fantastic opportunity to get your children enjoying reading.
Our Prep, Year 1, 2 and 3 students will be completing the challenge at school with their class. If you are in Year 4, 5 or 6 and would like to participate in the challenge please fill out the expression of interest form in this newsletter and send it back to school and I will send you out more information.
Year 3 – Year 6 are required to read fifteen books. Ten or more must be from the challenge booklists. Booklists are available in the LRC and the majority of the library book collection are challenge books. You must finish reading your fifteen challenge books by the end of August.
On completion of the challenge all successful participants will receive a certificate of congratulations from the Victorian Premier.

Please visit www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge for more information.

Have fun reading!
Narelle McMillan
Library Technician



If you are in Year 4-6 and would like to participate in this year's VPRC please fill out this expression of interest and return it to the school office and Miss McMillan will send you more information.
Student Name(s) and Grade .....
.....

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.

Pakenham Lakeside Primary School's

2, 3 & 4 Dance Concert



If you would like to order a USB copy of our Dance Concert please visit or contact the office on 5940 9532

USB's are $40

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

SEEKING 11 & UNDER PLAYERS

Come have some fun with us!!!

Anyone with a child born in 2015-2016 wanting to play Netball??

SEEKING PLAYERS

South East Storm Netball Club are seeking either girls or boys for their up and coming Winter season, for our **11 & under team**.

We train on Monday afternoon at James Bathe reserve and play at Cardinia stadium Wednesday afternoon. We are a fun, family friendly and all inclusive club. Please send enquiry to **southeaststormnc@gmail.com**

OPEN NIGHT

We welcome prospective families to attend our College Open Night.

Wednesday 29th April 2026

The Principal's address and information session will commence at 5:30pm, followed by a self-guided tour of the College where you will have the opportunity to meet some of our staff. Bookings essential through Compass Tix.

Edenbrook Secondary College - Cuthbert Stadium
Enter via: Caversham Drive (rear of the College)





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Pakenham
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OFFICER COMMUNITY HUB
THURSDAYS FROM 5.10PM

@pakenhamfloorballdub

Pakenham Floorball

E:secretary.pakenhamfloorball@gmail.com

www.pakenhamfloorball.org.au