

NEWSLETTER

26th March 2026

Principal's Report

It has been a very busy and productive term one, with a few more events to complete our term.

Wednesday of last week, Ms Gilmour and I had the pleasure of accompanying our nineteen student leaders into the city to attend the Youth Leadership Conference conducted by YLAA, Youth Leadership Academy Australia, held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. *'Dream and Lead'* is a one-day, highly engaging event designed to support primary school students in discovering their leadership potential, whilst providing them with strong foundations to succeed. The conference aims to equip our students with the skills and confidence to be change-makers in our school and our community, together with supporting their development for a future in leadership. We had a very enjoyable and insightful day.

The house results for our Fun Run will be announced at our assembly next Thursday. Thank you to our school community for the fabulous fundraising efforts, raising \$10,000. In consultation with our students, we look forward to sharing with our community how the funds will be utilised for our students.

Tomorrow, 80 students from year five and six will be participating in the Summer Sport Lightning Premiership. Our students will be representing PLPS in the sports of Cricket, Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis and Softball.

Please ensure all students playing outdoor sports have their hats and sunscreen for the day.

Thank you to Mr Vann and Mrs Kacew-Brown our Physical Education teachers for their organisation of this event. Parents are encouraged to come along to support our teams. We wish all our teams the best of luck.

On Monday 30th of March, Ms Olszewski and our school captains Amelia and Aarik, alongside our Year 6 Cultural Leaders students Sharia and Amna, will be attending the Cardinia Network Koorie/Cultural Student Leaders Conference at Cranbourne Botanic Gardens. The day will be an opportunity to learn about leadership, develop cultural understanding and work with students from schools across the Cardinia Network.

We are looking forward to our first musical performance by our students in years 2, 3 and 4 next Monday and Tuesday at the Cardinia Cultural Centre. Thank you to Kristen Windust and Tam Balucan, our Performing Arts teachers, for their efforts and commitment in working with, and preparing our children for their performances. A dress rehearsal was held yesterday at school in preparation for the students' three performances of their "Galaxy of Stars" Concert. Tickets are still available for the matinee show on Monday, March 30th at 11.30am, with only a few remaining tickets for the evening

show on Tuesday only. Thank you once again to our school community for your support of our Performing Arts program through the provision of costumes and the purchase of tickets.

Next Wednesday morning our students in years Prep, One and Two will be participating in our Easter Bonnett parade, where they can enjoy sharing their creations with their peers and families. Families and friends are encouraged to come along and join in the celebration and fun. Thank you in advance to all our students and families for the time and effort put into creating the colourful and interesting bonnets. OSHClub have kindly organised a coffee van to be at school on Wednesday morning for staff and parents. The van will be located in the school car park near the gym gate providing parents the opportunity to enjoy a hot drink whilst at the Easter Bonnett parade. Thank you to OSHClub for organising the van.

The annual Premier's Reading Challenge began on March 1st, 2026, and PLPS will be participating once again. This is a wonderful opportunity for teachers and parents to encourage our children to read books and appreciate reading as an enjoyable recreational pursuit.

Ms McMillan has provided more information in today's newsletter, including the participation of our Prep to year 3 students and an expression of interest form for students in years 4 to 6. If parents have any questions about the program, they are welcome to contact Ms McMillan, our library technician.

Last Friday, our students enjoyed their casual dress day, including the wearing of a variety of cultural outfits or a 'touch of orange' to celebrate Harmony Day. The casual dress day was also connected to our Easter Raffle. I would like to express my sincere thanks to our school community for the many donations towards our Easter Raffle. Again, thanks for the many tickets that have been purchased already. Our Easter Raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of our Easter Bonnet parade next Wednesday. All winners for each of the home groups will be contacted. The list of our winners will be posted on Compass on Wednesday afternoon.

A big thank you to our Parents Association for the work behind the scenes ensuring our fundraising events such as the Easter Raffle are successful and enjoyable. Tomorrow has been designated to collate the many Easter treats donated into the hampers for our raffle.

As our term one comes to an end, I would also like to acknowledge and thank the many parents who have volunteered for our icy pole roster each Friday. In the warmer weather, the icy poles are a huge hit for our students, and we very much appreciatecont'd

cont'd.....the time volunteered to enable these sales in term one and term four.

A reminder that OSHClub is providing their vacation care program for our students at PLPS over the school holidays beginning Tuesday, April 7th. A flyer outlining the program was posted on Compass last week. For families wanting to book places for the holiday program, please contact OSHClub on 0438 559.

Term 1 will conclude on Thursday, April 2nd. Please note that **school will finish at the earlier time of 2:30pm**. Parents are

requested to make the necessary arrangements to have their child collected at this earlier time. Our OSHClub after school program will be operating from this earlier time for those parents who require this service.

Second term commences on Monday, April 20th.
Wishing everyone a relaxing, enjoyable and safe holiday break.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Friday 27th March - Summer Lightning Premiership (selected students)

Monday 30th March - Tuesday 31st March: 2, 3 & 4 Dance Concert "Galaxy of Stars"

Wednesday 1st April: Prep, Year 1 & Year 2 Easter Bonnet Parade 9:15am

Wednesday 1st April: Easter Raffle Drawn

Thursday 2nd April: End of Term 1 - Early dismissal 2:30pm

Term 2

Monday 20th April: Term 2 Commences

Wednesday 22nd April: Years 4-6 House Athletics Day

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

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Thursday 2nd April - 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 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.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Sharing of food

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.



ICYPOLE FRIDAYS

We will be selling lemonade icy poles at lunch time on Fridays during term 1.

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

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





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.

2026



victorian **premiers'**
reading
challenge

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

victorian **premiers'**
reading
challenge

2026



Stories to discover.
Stories to tell.



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

Fun in Year One

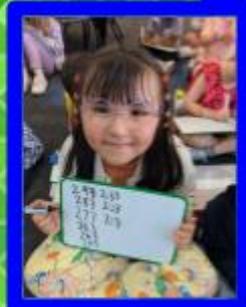


Friendships



Students have enjoyed exploring the new playground while developing and expanding their friendships.

Fluency



Harmony Day



Students have been practising their fluency skills when identifying numbers that are 1 more, 1 less, 10 more and 10 less in Maths as well as building on their reading fluency during Partner Reading.



EASTER RAFFLE

A big thank you to all the families who donated to our Easter raffle.

The Easter raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 1st April at the end of our Easter bonnet parade. Winners will be acknowledged via a Compass post that afternoon. There will be a hamper and winner drawn from each home group!

If you require more tickets please collect them from the school office.

Funds raised will contribute to the Parents & Friends Association (PFA) initiatives that benefit all students.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

PLPS Parents & Friends



Pakenham Lakeside Primary School's

2, 3 & 4 Dance Concert



GALAXY
OF
STARS

Please see the Compass post for the ticketing link

30.03.2026 | 11:30 AM & 7:00 PM

31.03.2026 | 7:00 PM

CARDINA CULTURAL CENTRE



Pakenham
SECONDARY COLLEGE

We Grow Through Connection

OPEN NIGHT

29 April 2026

5pm - 6.30pm

Register
now via
our website
or scan the
QR code



Presentation & School Tour

- * Meet our dedicated staff
- * Learn about our programs and pathways
- * Visit key learning area displays

Pakenham Secondary College

1020 Princes Highway Pakenham VIC 3810

Phone (03) 5945 1433 Website pakenhamsc.vic.edu.au

Connect with us  /pakenhamsc  @pakenhamsecondarycollege



School Holiday Program

4 Fun Filled Days • 8:30am to 3:30pm • Ages 4-12

April 2026 Dates

Tuesday 14th

Wednesday 15th

Thursday 16th

Friday 17th

Scan To Book Now



Location: Mckinnon Secondary College East Campus, 14 South Dr, Bentleigh East, VIC

What Is Involved

- Karate/Kickboxing/MMA Training
- Class Discussions
- Weapons Training
- Self Defence
- Movie
- Ninja Obstacle Course
- Nerf Wars
- Soft Archery
- Ninja Rope Climbing
- Tournament Practice
- Games
- Grading (if eligible after 4 days)

www.allstarsdefence.com.au



Kickboxing Camp

2x3 hr Sessions • 7-15 yrs

April 2026 Dates

Wed 15th 8:30am - 11:30am

Fri 17th 8:30am - 11:30am

Scan To Book Now



Location: Mckinnon Secondary College East Campus, 20 Market Boulevard, Bentleigh East VIC 3165

What Is Involved

- Mongkong Ritual
- Strength / Conditioning
- Footwork Drills
- Fitness Work
- Thai Pad Training
- Clinching / Grappling
- Ring Craft
- Sparring In Ring
- Cool Down Massage
- Nutrition Planning
- Fighters Psychology

www.allstarsdefence.com.au



Cultural
Hearing
Asking
Telling



CHAT ENCOUNTER

4 DAYS OF HOLIDAY FUN SPORT FOOD CULTURE

What is a CHAT Encounter Culture Holiday Program?

CHAT is an acronym for Cultural Hearing Asking Telling. CHAT is a four day program where you can enjoy yummy food, sport, basketball, dance and drama, play djembe drums, make new friends, win prizes and share the experience of different cultures whilst we learn how to show respect and curiosity towards one another.

Each day builds on the last, with a performance , sideshow alley carnival games & sausage sizzle for the family on the last day. So make sure you come to all four days to rehearse !

Your local Holiday Program with a difference!

LOCATION PAKENHAM Baptist Church Community Hall , 1 Bentley Court. Pakenham

WHEN 9am-3:30pm on Mon 13th April- Thurs 16th April -2nd wk of school holidays

WHO Grades 4-8 (co-ed)

HOW MUCH **EARLYBIRD \$40** (or \$50 after 6th April) per student for all **4 days** including morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea (family discount)

ENQUIRIES Samantha Bond 0468 314 499 E: samantha.bond@suchaplaincy.org.au

REGISTER Ask for a form via email, or register online via su.org.au/camps or QR code





THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Pakenham Lakeside Primary School

23 Shearwater Dr, Pakenham, VIC, 3810

Monday 06 April to Friday 17 April 2026

Ph: 0438 559 017

6:30AM
TIL
6:30PM



Scan to book online!



Mon 06 Apr



TUE 07 APR



Antarctic Explorers Make and Take: Penguin Pals

Brrr... it's time for an Antarctic adventure! Enjoy a cosy day of creativity sewing your very own take-home penguin, with plenty of frosty fun and winter explorer vibes along the way.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$20.00
DAILY TOTAL \$101.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$10.16

WED 08 APR



Camp Champions Special Event: Outdoor Explorers

Packed with hands-on challenges and bush survival fun, Camp Champions is an action-packed outdoor adventure! Learn cool knot-tying tricks, make tasty damper, and send secret emergency signals.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$30.00
DAILY TOTAL \$111.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$11.16

THU 09 APR



Big Day Out Excursion: Junior Survivor Bring a spare change of clothes in case it's rainy or we get messy!

The ultimate outdoor adventure day is here! Big Day Out is all about exploration, teamwork, and hands-on fun in our junior survivor challenge. A high-energy mix of teamwork, creativity, and great outdoors excitement.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$90.00
DAILY TOTAL \$171.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$17.16

FRI 10 APR



Astronaut Adventures Service Day

Get ready to launch into an out-of-this-world adventure! Astronaut Adventures combines space-inspired creativity with energetic games and hands-on fun. A day packed with imagination, movement, and intergalactic excitement.

BASE FEE \$81.59
DAILY TOTAL \$81.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$8.16

MON 13 APR



Into the Wild Excursion: Hoppers Movie Popcorn and water included!

It's movie time with an Into the Wild twist! Sit back and enjoy a big-screen adventure with Disney and Pixar's Hoppers.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$59.00
DAILY TOTAL \$140.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$14.06

TUE 14 APR



Ocean Oasis Make and Take: Shell Painting

Dive into an Ocean Oasis of creativity! Paint a wall shell hanging, craft colourful Coral Reef creations, and design an Ocean Bottle to take home. A relaxing, imaginative day full of coastal fun and creativity.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$20.00
DAILY TOTAL \$101.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$10.16

WED 15 APR



Mindful Moments Special Event: Yoga Adventures

Stretch, move, and breathe your way through a Mindful Moments adventure! Children will explore yoga through playful poses, fun movement challenges, and calming breathing activities.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$30.00
DAILY TOTAL \$111.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$11.16

THU 16 APR



On the Green Excursion: Barefoot Bowls Dress up in green

Time to hit the green for a fun-filled day! Enjoy barefoot bowls with playful games, friendly competition, plenty of laughs, fresh air, sunshine, and good vibes all around.

BASE FEE \$81.59
EXPERIENCE FEE \$60.00
DAILY TOTAL \$141.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$14.16

FRI 17 APR



Natural Wonders Service Day Bring a change of clothes as we are likely to get messy!

Explore the outdoors at our Natural Wonders nature play day! Create muddy masterpieces, tackle nature challenges and take on a Nature Ninja Warrior course. Fresh air, messy fun and outdoor adventure all in one exciting day!

BASE FEE \$81.59
DAILY TOTAL \$81.59
FROM AS LOW AS* \$8.16



THE HUSTLE HUB SPORTS AND RECOVERY

The Hustle Hub is an elite sports performance facility developing athletes of all ages and abilities. From basketball academies and one-on-one coaching to shooting bays, a fully equipped gym and premium recovery services. The Hub is where athletes train hard, recover smart and perform at their best.

We offer:

- Basketball Academies
- One-on-One Coaching
- Toddler & All Abilities Programs
- Shooting Bays (Dr Dish Machines)
- Strength & Conditioning Gym
- Hot & Cold Magnesium Spas
- Compression Boot Recovery
- Onsite Physiotherapy
- Court Hire & Birthday Parties
- Membership Options & Holiday Programs

**CONTACT US TODAY TO FIND OUT
MORE!**

