

# NEWSLETTER

## 29th January 2026

### Principal's Report

Welcome back everyone to our 2026 school year. It has been enjoyable interacting and listening to our students discuss how they have relaxed and enjoyed the holiday break. We are looking forward to continuing to provide many opportunities for our students to grow and develop as contributors to our school community at PLPS.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to all our new students and their families who have joined our PLPS school community. We have 94 Prep students who will commence together on Monday. We also have several new students in years 1 – 6 enrolled. I hope 2026 is the beginning of a wonderful relationship between our school and new families to our school community.

As well as new students beginning at our school, we also have new teaching and education support staff. I would like to welcome Sandali Hettiarachchige, Laura Gagatsis, Lin Li, Kaylee McCubbin, Rachael Navarra, Elley Fitzpatrick and Jaimey Breen to our PLPS team.

With the warmer weather upon us, can I urge all parents to support our school by ensuring that their children have a sunhat with them at school. With the temperatures on the rise and the UV index is at its highest, it is strongly encouraged for all children to develop this important life skill of sun protection. Sunhats are required for all students when they are outside at recess, lunch and during outdoor learning activities. Students are also encouraged to apply sunscreen before school and bring it to school to apply before going outside. If students do not have their own sunscreen, they are welcome to use sunscreen provided in the classrooms. For students who may suffer from skin reactions from certain types of sunscreens, can parents please contact the school via phone or email to ensure this information is recorded and communicated to classroom teachers. Thank you for your assistance with this very important matter.

Just before our school holidays started, you may have noticed some work being completed in our playgrounds. The landscaping and playground project has continued over the holidays and is close to completion. Included in the project are three pieces of climbing equipment, a sandpit and some seating and shaded areas for quiet and passive time. We look forward to our students enjoying the new spaces soon.

On Monday next week, parents will receive information on Compass regarding our 'Meet the Teacher' conversations. The meetings have been scheduled for Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> after school from 3:30—7:00pm. This meeting provides an opportunity for parents and teachers to meet and introduce themselves, as well as share any information that parents believe may impact upon their child's education in 2026. Parents can book their preferred conversation time/s via Compass. Bookings will open next Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. Bookings will close to parents at 12 noon on Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

The first of our year level newsletters for 2026 will be distributed to parents at the 'Meet the Teacher' conversations. The newsletter will share with parents the key areas their children will be engaging in this term, including reading, writing, mathematics, and our inquiry units. They also include relevant dates for each year level together with other important information to assist parents with some of our school processes. We hope this helps parents with an understanding of the learning your children will experience during term 1.

This week our year 6 students who have aspirations for leadership positions in 2026 will collect their leadership applications. Our student leadership team is made up of our two school captains, eight house captains and a number of student representative council captains. As part of the application process, our students need to:

- demonstrate and outline their ability to be positive role models for all students
- demonstrate their ability to think and act in ways that reflect our school's core values—how they "live our values"
- be representatives of our school, when required, out of school at community events.
- demonstrate an enthusiasm to lead and encourage our student body to participate and contribute to the ongoing development of our school.

Aspirant leaders will make a presentation to students in their house, provide a written application and share with the Principal Class team their thoughts and ideas on leadership and how they can fulfil the role. Parents of year 6 students will be notified of when the student leadership positions will be announced.

...Cont'd

**Cont'd...**

A reminder that the Department of Education has in place a mobile phone ban that requires students who bring mobiles phones to school to have them switched off and securely put away during school hours. The department is requiring all schools to ensure this ban is in place and enforced from the start of the 2026 school year. The ban applies equally to all government schools right across the state. This helps ensure that school is a learning environment free from unnecessary distractions and disruptions.

By ensuring mobile phones are kept away at recess and lunch times, students can interact with each other face-to-face, without the distractions and social pressures that mobile phones can cause. I ask for the support of all our families, staff and students in continuing to support the implementation of this policy in our school. In the

event of an emergency or if you need to immediately contact your child, I ask that families contact the school office who will pass on a message as required.

A copy of our school's local mobile phone policy, which implements the government's mobile policy in line with our local context, is available here:

[PLPS Student Mobile Phone Use Policy](#)

**Parent support:** The [Mobile phones in schools webpage](#) provides links to resources for families to help them balance their children's time using mobile phones. If you have further questions, please contact the school office.

**Kerrie Kingston-Gains**  
**Principal**

# Admin News

## DIARY DATES

Friday 6th February - Icy Pole Friday commences (Every Friday - Term 1)

Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th February – 'Meet the Teacher' conversations 3:30-7pm

## Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Friday 30th January - 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 commencing Friday 6th February.

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



## Canteen News

The first day for Canteen for the 2026 school year will be on:

**Tuesday 4th February**

**Important Information - Nearby Parking**

*Cardinia Shire Council's parking officers would like to remind the school community that it is an offence to park across a resident's driveway. This has become a regular problem around the school, but particularly in Radiata Cct.*

*Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated by the residents.*

**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.

Issue 1 Open Now!

FREE BOOK OFFER!

GET UP TO 3 FREE BOOKS

Issue 1 is Now Open!

Providing Value to Families **Book Club**

ORDERS ARE DUE 12th Feb

See LOOP for the full list!

SCHOLASTIC **Book Club** SCHOLASTIC **Book Club** SCHOLASTIC **Book Club**

**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club**

**Scholastic Bookclub 2026**

Bookclub offers a convenient way for you and your child to select and purchase worthwhile and appealing books. The books have been expertly selected to span a range of reading levels and interests and are offered at reasonable prices. The wide range of newly published titles and old favourites represents a thoughtful mix of books from Australian and international publishers.

Bookclub operates at least 8 times a year. Your children will have already received their bookclub brochure, which has the order form inside. Simply select any books you or your child would like to purchase and return the order form to the school, with correct payment, or order online with LOOP for credit card purchases by the closing date (FEB 12<sup>th</sup> for Issue 1). The school sends all the orders in together, and then the books are delivered to the school. The books will then be delivered to your child's classroom to take home.

Furthermore, the school receives free books from Book Club that allow us to regularly update our class and school libraries with just-published and favourite books.

There is no obligation to order, but I know of no better way to encourage reading than to give children the opportunity of choosing their own books.

Yours Sincerely,

Narelle McMillan - Library Technician

**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club LOOP**  
for Parents

Here are eight easy steps for ordering via LOOP:

- 1 Log in, or create a new account
- 2 Follow the Wizard to set up the child's profile
- 3 Click the ORDER tab, select the child's school & class
- 4 Add the child's first name and last initial
- 5 Enter the product item number from the Book Club catalogue
- 6 Apply any promotional codes that have been earned
- 7 Make a payment via credit card
- 8 Await order arrival at the child's school

SCHOLASTIC **Book Club**

**DON'T FORGET!**

**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club**  
orders are due:  
**12th Feb**

**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club LOOP**  
for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.  
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:  
[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)

GET IT ON Google play

Download on the App Store

# YAKKERBOO FESTIVAL

On 15 February 2026, Yakkerboo will proudly celebrate the 50th anniversary of its beloved community festival.

Much like Moomba, the Yakkerboo Festival features rides, market stalls, community displays, stage performances, fireworks, and a vibrant walking parade.

Traditionally, this event has been a highlight on the local calendar and a wonderful opportunity for schools and kindergartens to take part in a large-scale community celebration. As we mark this milestone year, we would be thrilled to see strong participation from local educational communities and invite you to be part of this special occasion.

## HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

### Parade

There is no cost to join the parade. You may walk with banners in uniform or dress to our 2026 festival theme, "Celebrating 50 years of Mr Yakkerboo".

### Stage Performance

There is no cost for a 15-minute performance on the stage.

### Market Stall

A 3m by 3m space will be provided at no charge to not for profit groups and \$85 for all other groups.

 **Contact Us**  
entryforms@yakkerboo.org.au

 **More Information**  
<https://yakkerboo.org.au>

Socials:   



10AM - 4PM

**15**  
FEBRUARY  
2026

**PB RONALD  
RESERVE**

JOHN ST.,  
PAKENHAM



**TERM 1, 2026  
SOCCER FUN  
FOR GIRLS &  
BOYS AGED 2-12!**

STARTING FROM 7TH FEB

*Free*

**FIRST 30 NEW  
ENROLMENTS RECEIVE  
COMPLIMENTARY SHIRT AND SHORTS!**

FOR A **FREE TRIAL P: 0413 781 900**



SCAN ME

**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**



**PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:**



# TERM 1, 2026 ENROLMENT FORM STARTING FROM THE 7TH FEBRUARY.

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

## TERM 1 CENTRES & TERM DATES: (Please Tick)

- HERITAGE COLLEGE, OFFICER - 66 Starling Rd, Officer (8 week program starting on the Tues 10th Feb)
- HERITAGE COLLEGE, NARRE WARREN - 333 Centre Rd, Narre Warren South (8 week program starting on the Thurs 11th Feb)
- NARRE WARREN SOUTH P-12 COLLEGE - 79-125 Amberly Park drive, NWS (8 week program starting on the Sat 7th Feb)
- NOBLE PARK SECONDARY COLLEGE - (8 week program starting on the Sat 7th Feb)
- PAKENHAM SECONDARY COLLEGE - (8 week program starting on the Sat 7th Feb)
- NARRE WARREN SOUTH P-12 COLLEGE - 79-125 Amberly Park drive, NWS (8 week program starting on the Sun 8th Feb)

## 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)
<b>CLASS TIMES</b>	<b>MITE-E</b>	<b>PINT SIZE</b>	<b>INTRO TO MICRO</b>	<b>MICRO</b>	<b>MICRO PLUS</b>
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	11.00 - 11.40am	11.00 - 11.40am	11.00 - 12.00pm	11.00 - 12.00pm	11.00 - 12.00pm
NOBLE PARK SC - SAT	11.00 - 11.40am	11.00 - 11.40am	11.00 - 12.00pm	11.00 - 12.00pm	11.00 - 12.00pm
PAKENHAM SC - 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
<b>TERM FEE</b>	<b>\$175</b>	<b>\$175</b>	<b>\$185</b>	<b>\$185</b>	<b>\$185</b>

**MULTIPLE LOCATIONS FEE: \$250**

### 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.

**ENROLMENT SPECIAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TERM FEE \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please Tick: Yes  No

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

