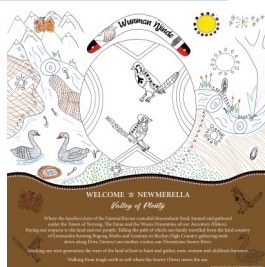


Our School Values
Caring, Excellence, Honesty & Learning



Tuesday 26th August 2025

SCHOOL COUNCIL 2025
President—Joanne Austin
Treasurer—Kalina Mekken
Secretary— Kelly Morrison
Sarah Walker
Elaine Hofen
Jason Griebenow
Lisa MacFarlane
Nicole Mathers
Pam Beveridge
Janet Munn



NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL: Sarah Walker
McLaughlin's Road, NEWMERELLA. 3886
Phone: 51541620
Mobile: 0433925005
Email: newmerella.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Principal's Report

Coming Events

Please check Calendar for any of the following dates

**School Council
Finance Meeting
Student Early Finish
Student Free Days
Public Holidays
Camps & Excursions**

BUS TRAVEL REMINDERS

Parents are reminded that changes to bus travel arrangements require 24 hours notice and approval by the Community College.

Please notify our school if your child is a regular bus traveller and is being picked up so we can mark them off the bus.

School Values for the fortnight are Caring and Learning

We encourage parents to discuss and reinforce with their children what the actions for the weekly values might look like.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Please contact the school if your child is going to be away.



Wuman Njinde Parents, Students and the School Community,
Welcome to this fortnight's newsletter where we share Newmerella's school journey and achievements.

What a very challenging week many of our families have had due to their child contracting Influenza A. At school we are continuing to be vigilant, and practice good hygiene. The school already has regular routines and habits in place. These include washing hands with soap and water before eating, having the air purifiers on in the classrooms (Filters are regularly replaced each term), having doors and windows open, reminding children to cough into their arm and Nola our cleaner is cleaning the tables daily in each classroom. We have upped the ante this week, and Nola is sanitizing the door handles daily and we are reminding children to use the hand sanitizer after blowing their nose. If your child is experiencing cold and flu-like symptoms, please remember to keep them at home.

The school is beginning the early stages of planning for our staff, education support staff, and classroom structures for 2026 so we can meet the needs of all our students and families. We know that families move for a variety of reasons - whether due to work, lifestyle changes, or schooling choices. If your family is considering a move or change of school before 2026, we would greatly appreciate a conversation. This will help us in our planning and ensure a smooth transition for your child to their new school.

Just a reminder that our drop off zone is not available for parking in the morning and/or afternoon periods. Parents should not leave their cars. Students without parents in the yard will continue to be asked to remain near the front gate to facilitate a quick pick up and to enable traffic to flow freely. Students who have not been picked up by 3:30 will be asked to go to the office and parents will be called.

Congratulations to Kaitlyn M and Charlotte B who are representing our school at the next division stage of athletics. Kaitlyn's events are discus and shotput, and Charlotte's event is 1500m.

Each year in September all schools are required to update their Emergency Management Plans (EMP). The review includes identifying areas where the EMP could be improved and ensuring the whole school community is aware of the plan and their role during an emergency.

Each term we are required to run an emergency management drill which can include bushfire/lock down, off site evacuation, shelter in place /explosion etc. Last week we conducted our Term 3 drill which was based on a gas explosion scenario. Whilst the school didn't leave the school grounds, in a real emergency, we would be locating the school to our offsite location which is the vacant lot several blocks down from the school.

Parents can assist the school by doing the following below so that if a real emergency was to present, everyone's whereabouts is accounted for.

Sign your child in through the office if they are late to school (This cannot be done by the child alone, they must be accompanied by their parent/guardian)

2. Sign your child out through the office if they are leaving early.
3. Sign in yourself if you are volunteering or meeting at the school during school hours. Sign out when you are leaving.

In addition, parents are asked to assist in the following ways:

1. If we are holding an EMP drill when you are at the school, we ask that you follow all the instructions and also be involved.

In the case of a real emergency, follow all the instructions that will be provided through Com-pass, particularly if you are not at the school. We will provide instructions to parents with the

guidance of the emergency services. (If you are asked to stay away from the school, this will be done for the safety of everyone, and this decision will come from the DET).

Ensure you have Compass available either on your phone, tablet or computer so you can keep up to date with instructions. Check your password regularly to ensure you have access.

Evacuation Points

Our onsite evacuation point is the basketball court. A green evacuation sign is displayed on the fence.

Our Shelter in Place is Class 1 and 2.

Our Offsite Evacuation points are the Newmerella CFA Station and the vacant lot several doors down from the school on McLaughlin's Road.

First Aid

In order for us to support your child both at school each day and in the case of emergency, we need to be aware of their first aid needs. Please ensure this is up to date.

Contact details

Thank to our parents for providing the school with updated personal information as it relates to a change of address, contact numbers, emergency contact names and numbers etc. This information is crucial to ensure the school has processes in place if your child is sick, injured and/or for communication purposes.

The 2025 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey is open, and the schools invites you to complete this before it closes on Friday 19 September 2025. The survey is completed online and should take about 20 minutes to complete. Thank you for taking the time to participate. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

As the end of August approaches which usually signals the end of winter, I ask that you start searching for your child's school hat as they will be required to wear them at the start of Term 4, Monday 6th October.

Stay healthy and look after yourselves.

Until next time,

Sarah



DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW OF CHILD SAFETY POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Child safety and wellbeing at Newmerella Primary School: information for families and the school community

Newmerella Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework includes policies, codes and procedures that explain how we support and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and protect them from harm. These documents are available on our website: <https://www.newmerellaps.vic.edu.au>

We are also committed to continuous improvement of our child safety framework. We are currently reviewing our child safety policies and practices to ensure they are up-to-date and effective.

Our students and families are important partners in this process. We welcome your feedback or ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Newmerella Primary School on 03 5154 1620 or at newmerella.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Child safety and wellbeing at Newmerella Primary School: information for families and the school community

Newmerella Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework <https://www.newmerellaps.vic.edu.au> explains how we support and maintain child safety and wellbeing at Newmerella Primary School. It includes our:

- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Child Safety Reporting and Responding Obligations Procedures, and
- Child Safety Code of Conduct, which outlines acceptable and unacceptable behaviours for all staff and volunteers at our school.

Our students and families are important partners in providing a child safe environment. These regular newsletter reminders are one of the ways we ensure our school community is aware of:

- our commitment to child safety, and
- how to provide feedback or raise child safety concerns.

If you have any concerns about child safety at any time, please contact Newmerella Primary School on 03 5154 1620. Any child safety complaints or concerns are treated seriously. For more information about our school's complaints process, see our Complaints Policy.

We also welcome your ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing. If you have any suggestions or comments please contact Newmerella Primary School on 03 5154 1620 or at newmerella.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Student of the week Awards

The winners for the fortnight were

Maci

Jools

Elly

William

Jackson (absent from photo)

Amberely (absent from photo)

Awesome job everyone!



Positive Behaviour Raffle

Students who are displaying positive behaviours that are aligned to our school values which are:

**LEARNING, HONESTY,
EXCELLENCE & CARING**

both in the classroom and in the yard can receive a raffle ticket.

The winner for the fortnight were

Nevaeh

and

Daniel

Top job kids



READING RAFFLE AWARDS

To be eligible for the weekly reading raffle, students must read 5 out of 7 possible nights.

The winners for the fortnight were

Jools

and

Koa

Reading is fun, keep up the great work!



FOR SALE—TOSHIBA E-studio 350 5AC Photocopier

\$500 ono

Our school has upgraded its photocopier and is selling this reliable photocopier, originally purchased in December 2017, "as is" for just \$500! Perfect for home offices or small businesses. First come, first served!

Contact the school office for further details



Works are progressing nicely on our toilets. This week we have a crane onsite helping to install the steel frames .

August 2025

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Personal Development Grade 5/6	7	8 Fortnightly Assembly 3pm	9	10
11 Curriculum Day Student free day	12 Marc Van	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Fortnightly Assembly 3pm	23	24
25 School Council 5:30	26 Marc Van	27	28	29	30	31

September 2025

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3 Gruffalo grades P-2 Bairnsdale	4	5 Fortnightly Assembly 3pm	6	7
8 District Athletics Bairnsdale	9 Marc Van	10	11	12 Writer Show Case - Lakes Entrance Whole school	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Fortnightly Assembly 3pm Last day of term 3 2:15 finish Footy Colour's Crazy hair day	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS