



Newmerella Primary School

Learning Excellence Caring Honesty



Address: McLaughlin's Road, Newmerella, VIC, 3886

Telephone: (03) 5154 1620

Email: newmerella.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: <https://www.newmerellaps.vic.edu.au>



Principal Report – Sarah Walker

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

AEU VGSA (Victorian Government Schools Agreement) Offer: As a result of members continuing to campaign for better work, pay conditions and resources for Government schools and the decision to hold a second 24-hour statewide stop work, a AEU meeting took place on Friday 17th July late in the evening to discuss the revised offer from the Allan government. At this stage We are waiting for conformation as to whether this stop work day will go ahead.

School Council Members: The School Council is still seeking new members to ensure we have a quorum for 2027. Council meets eight times a year, with each meeting running for approximately one hour. If you require supervision for your children while you attend, they are welcome to come to the school during the meeting. If you'd like to see what being a School Council member involves before committing, you're warmly invited to attend our next meeting as a guest. Please see Di and/or Sarah regarding meeting time and details.

Term 4 Principal Arrangements: I have taken up a principal appointment at Swan Reach Primary School to further my professional development and learning. As already mentioned on Compass newsfeed, I will keep the school community informed of the next steps regarding my replacement. I will continue to strengthen our school by investing in learning, developing our programs, and providing the resources needed to support the success and wellbeing of all students.

Buildings and Grounds: The following works are in the pipeline to be completed this year, and I will keep you posted throughout this term as to the stages;

A school crossing was being measured up by the Shire last week. I had been in talks with East Gippsland Shire regarding this and was informed in Terms 1 and 2 this year that the TAC had used up their allocated funding and this was not going ahead. So hopefully we have a positive outcome with this going forward.

The shelter in place building will have some minor roof repairs done to it – Class 2's room.

The administration building will have the staff and visitor bathrooms, toilets and storerooms upgraded, as well as any other areas deemed needing to be fixed by the contractors and VSBA (Victorian Schools Building Authority). A contractor is being appointed as we speak, and this work will likely commence in Term 4.

I have sent pictures to snap, send and solve to get the potholes fixed at the front of the school where parents turn their cars on the other side of the road and the parking areas. A representative from the Shire was out towards the end of last week taking photos.

Welcome

Welcome to Newmerella PS
'Valley of Plenty', we acknowledge the ones that come before us and thank the people that teach and share the stories of the past. We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai elders past, present and emerging and extend our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders students and families.

Important Dates

MARC Van

21st July
4th August
18th August
1st September
15th September

School Council 5:30pm

20th July
10th August
12th October

Assembly

31st July
14th August
28th August

Public Holiday

3rd November

Pupil free days

24th August
30th October
2nd November



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Attendance Awards: Congratulations to the following students who achieved 90% and above attendance for Term 2; Daniel McF , William Waddell , Benji, Livvy, Willow D, Wassana, Rory, Elly, William W, Ember, Nevaeh, Todd and Toby.



Compass Communication: An overview of classroom learning for the week will be shared with families by your child's classroom teacher. In addition, I will share the whole-school weekly agenda with families each Sunday morning, allowing you to plan ahead and stay informed about upcoming events and activities.

Until next time.

Sarah



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Compass

Just a reminder that Compass is our first point of call with regards to communication. If you are unable to access this, please speak to office admin.

QR Code

This is our QR code that goes directly to our website. It will be on the front page of the newsletters from now on.



ENROLMENTS:

How to enrol your child in Foundation (Prep): Starting primary school is an exciting time for you and your child. If your child is turning 5 years old by 30 April 2027, they are eligible to start school in 2027. Schooling is compulsory once your child turns 6 years old. In Victoria, every child has the right to attend their designated neighbourhood government school (your 'local school'), as set out in the [Education and Training Reform Act 2006](#).

The Victorian government supports school choice. This means that you can apply to schools other than your local school. Schools will consider your application in line with the department's Placement Policy and offer enrolment if there are available places. The department's Placement Policy does not apply to schools with specific entry criteria, including specialist schools and English language schools.

This information pack outlines **when and how to enrol** your child in Foundation at a government primary school for the 2027 school year and guides you through the process. If you wish for your child to attend a non-government school (Catholic or independent), please contact the schools directly for their enrolment processes. For information about enrolling in a government specialist school, please visit:

vic.gov.au/how-choose-school-and-enrol.

What you need to do : Find your local school

Visit www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au to find your local government primary school or nearby schools.

Contact the school

Contact the primary school to book an optional school tour. **Newmerella Primary School will be using the online enrolment (VicStudents)**. This information will be available through the school's website too.

Submit your enrolment application

Submit an enrolment application **by Friday 31 July 2026**, either online via VicStudents or using the paper-based application form, depending on the school's process. For schools using the paper-based process, the application form is available at the end of this pack.

Receive and choose to accept an outcome

You will be notified of the outcome of your application via email **between Monday 3 August and Friday 14 August 2026**. If you receive an offer, you should accept the offer **by Friday 28 August 2026**.

Prepare for your child's transition to school

Take part in student **transition sessions during Term 4, 2026**, which will be organised by the school. Your child will start Foundation on **Thursday 28 January 2027**. For further information, visit: <http://www.vic.gov.au/transition-school-resources-families>.



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COOKING



Three ingredient biscuits Yummo!



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Student of the Week Awards

The winners for the fortnight were: Rory, Troy and Hamish. Great work boys!



Positive Behaviour Raffle

Students who are displaying positive behaviours that are aligned to our school values which are LEARNING, HONESTY, EXCELLENCE AND CARING in the classroom and/or in the yard can receive a raffle ticket. Winners for the fortnight were: Troy for moving places without being asked. Benji for using his applied learning from last term.



Specialist Subjects Awards

Students that displayed a positive attitude to their specialist subjects for the fortnight were: Wyatt –Art, Max– Humanities, Elsie –Sport and Kobe– Steam



Reading Raffle Awards

To be eligible for the weekly reading raffle, students must read 5 out of 7 nights. The winners for the fortnight were: Rory, Charlotte, Elly, Nevaeh and Todd. Terrific work everyone. Reading is fun!



Curriculum Days

Monday 24th Aug and Monday 2nd Nov.

Professional Practice Day

Friday 30th October

School Holidays

Term 3: Sat 19th Sept to Sunday 4th Oct.

Term 4: Sat 19th Dec.

Fortnight School Values –Honesty and Excellence

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



School Council 2026

President: Jo Austin

Treasurer/Secretary: Lisa MacFarlane

Principal: Sarah Walker

Staff Representatives: Nicole Mathers and Janet Munn

Community Members: Elaine Hofen and Pam Beveridge

Parent Representatives: Jason Griebenow, Megan Sage, and Lisa MacFarlane.

Every Day Counts

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

Bus Travellers

Please notify the school if your child is being picked up so we can mark them off the roll. Parents are reminded that changes to bus travel arrangements require 24 hours notice and approval by Orbest Community College.

CALENDAR

JULY 2026

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

13 Term 3 starts	14	15 Ben Keso	16	17 Library Visit P/I	18	19
20	21 MARC Van Friends Program Selected students 2-3pm	22 Ben Keso Personal Development 5/6 11:30-1pm	23	24 Library Visit P/I	25	26
27	28 Friends Program Selected students 2-3pm	29 Ben Keso	30	31 Library Visit P/I		

August 2026

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

					1	2
3	4 MARC Van Friends Program Selected students 2-3pm	5 Ben Keso	6	7 Library Visit P/I	8	9
10	11 Friends Program Selected students 2-3pm	12 Ben Keso	13	14 Library Visit P/I	15	16
17	18 MARC Van Friends Program Selected students 2-3pm	19 Ben Keso	20 District Aths B/Dale	21 Library Visit P/I	22	23
24 Curriculum Day-student Free	25 Friends Program Selected students 2-3pm	26 Ben Keso	27	28 Library Visit P/I	29	30
31						