



# Newmerella Primary School

*Learning Excellence Caring Honesty*



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## 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.

**End of Term 2 arrangements:** Term 2 will finish on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Lunch orders will be available on this day. Please refer to Compass for special activities organised for the end of the week. Students will be dismissed at 2:15pm.

**Athletics sports:** Congratulations to William W, and Will G who will be travelling to Bairnsdale on 20<sup>th</sup> August for the next stage of competition. William W will be competing in the 100m, shot put, long jump and relays. Will G will be competing in high jump and long jump. We wish them all the very best.

**Student arrivals:** Classroom doors open at 8:00 am, and we encourage students before they go out to play to enter their classroom as soon as they arrive at school, store their belongings in their locker, prepare their learning space ready for the day (Drink bottle out, chair behind desk, books out etc), so they are organised and ready to learn at 9:00 am. We ask that parents support their child to arrive at school on time each day. Arriving at school on time helps children start the day calmly and ready to learn. It ensures they don't miss important instructions for the morning's learning and helps minimise disruption to lessons already in progress.

**Contact details:** Please advise staff of any changes to your contact details or those of your emergency contacts. Contact details should include current address, contact phone numbers, email addresses and alternate emergency contacts. This also includes medical information too such as asthma, allergies etc.

**Communication:** Maintaining open, honest and effective communication is a high priority at Newmerella Primary School. Parents and carers are encouraged to communicate regularly with their child's teacher; however, we do ask that you do so at a mutually convenient time if in person. We do not have the luxury of having a large cohort of staff and due to some mornings being very busy for staff as they prepare for the start of the school day, we really appreciate it if you could send an email and/or note if you need us to know something important.

Expectations of staff:

Staff will endeavour to respond to emails and phone calls as soon as they can.

- Staff are not expected to complete administrative work in the evenings or on weekends after their normal working hours.
- Staff will communicate respectfully and honestly.  
The school will provide timely notification of school events and activities via Compass and/or in a hard copy when required.

## 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

### Assembly

21st July

4th August

18th August

1st September

15th September

### School Council 5:30pm

20th July

10th August

12th October

### Marc Van

23rd June

### Public Holiday

3rd November

### Last Day of Term 2

Friday 26th June 2:15 finish

### First day back for term 3

Monday 13th July



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Expectations of parent/s and/or carer/s:

- Parent/s and/or carer/s are expected to communicate respectfully and honestly (Aggressive communication is not acceptable and staff have been advised to discontinue such interactions and address their concerns to the principal).
- Parent/s and/or carer/s are reminded that staff are not always available for 'on the spot' meetings particularly before or immediately after school.
- Remember that your child may not always have told you the entire story – take the time to listen to your child and to speak calmly with the teacher to gain a complete context of any incident.
- In general, it is most effective to raise a concern with the class teacher in the first instance.
- If an issue is urgent, please contact the principal.

Parents are expected to read information that is distributed in Compass in relation to school events, activities and procedures.

**Staffing update:** We are saying goodbye to Lucy W who will be moving to the Bendigo area, and we wish her the very best with her teaching. Lucy was at Bairnsdale Secondary College prior to her time with us.

**Small working bikes needed:** If your child has outgrown their bike and it is in good working condition, the school would love to give your child's preloved bike a forever home. Bike donations are welcome.

**Health and wellbeing:** As we move into the colder winter months and the busy end-of-term period, it is important to prioritise our mental health and wellbeing. Shorter days, cooler weather, and full schedules can sometimes impact our mood and energy levels. It was wonderful to hear several children in the junior class share that they had spent time with their families playing games and enjoying activities away from screens when I asked about their weekend. Simple things such as spending quality time with family and friends, getting outdoors when possible, staying active, maintaining healthy routines, and allowing time for rest can all contribute to positive wellbeing.

Encouraging children to talk about their feelings, recognise their strengths, and celebrate their achievements—no matter how small—can also help build resilience, confidence, and a positive sense of self. Taking time to practise gratitude, show kindness to others, and stay connected with our school community can have a positive impact on wellbeing. It is also important to remember that everyone experiences challenges from time to time, and seeking support from family, friends, teachers, or trusted adults is a sign of strength. By working together and looking out for one another, we can help create a supportive and caring environment where everyone feels valued, connected, and able to thrive.

A big congratulation to Lucy who gained her Australian Citizenship on Thursday last week and is now an official Aussie!!! The wonderful team at River baker Café made this delicious cake to help us celebrate Lucy's achievement.



Enjoy your holidays and we look forward to seeing you in Term 3.



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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](http://vic.gov.au/how-choose-school-and-enrol).

#### What you need to do : Find your local school

Visit [www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au](http://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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# **This week in cooking we made muesli bars**





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## **Student of the Week Awards**

The winners for the fortnight were:  
Todd, Scarlett and Charlee.  
Excellence work kids!



## **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: Aurelia for helping with the prep students, Livvy for great sentences and Nevaeh for helping clean up the art room.  
Top effort girls.



## **Specialist Subjects Awards**

Students that displayed a positive attitude to their specialist subjects for the fortnight were: Sport -Bern, Humanities -Todd, Art -Ember and Dance- Elly.  
Well done everyone.



## **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: Aurelia, Nevaeh and Lily.  
Great reading girls.



## **Curriculum Days**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Aug and Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

## **School Holidays**

Term 2: Sat 27<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

Term 3: Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Sept to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Term 4: Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Dec.

## **Fortnight School Values –Honesty and Learning**

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 Orbost Community College.

# CALENDAR

## JUNE 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 Littles Learning 9am-11am	2	3 KESO-Ben 11:30	4 East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority visit	5 Library Visit Prep/1	6	7
8 KINGS BIRTHDAY Public Holiday	9 MARC Van	10 KESO-Ben 11:30	11	12 Coastal School visit Prep/1/2/3	13	14
15 Littles Learning 9am-11am	16	17 KESO-Ben 11:30	18	19 Library Visit Prep/1	20	21
22 Littles Learning 9am-11am	23 MARC Van	24 KESO-Ben 11:30	25	26 Bike Ride 9-11am End of Term 2 2:15 finish		

## JULY 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
13 Term 3 starts	14	15 Ben Keso	16	17 Library Visit P/1	18	19
20	21 MARC Van	22 Ben Keso	23	24 Library Visit P/1	25	26
27	28	29 Ben Keso	30	31 Library Visit P/1		