

TERM 1 2026 IMPORTANT DATES

WEEK 1	JAN 26 – JAN 30 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	Australia Day Staff return 1:1 Getting to Know You Interviews (P-6) Pupil Free Day – Teacher Professional Learning 1:1 Getting to Know You Interviews (P-6)
WEEK 2	FEB 2 – FEB 6 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	All Year 1-6 students return (Half Prep Classes) (Half Prep classes) Prep Literacy 1:1 Interviews All students P-6 All students P-6
WEEK 3	FEB 9 – FEB 13 MONDAY FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY BMPS SWIMMING TRIALS AT BACCHUS MARSH POOL
WEEK 4	FEB 16 – FEB 20 MONDAY WEDNESDAY	Leadership Photos and Year 3 Hockey Clinic
WEEK 5	FEB 23 – FEB 27 MONDAY-FRIDAY FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY BOOK FAIR BMPSSA DISTRICT SWIMMING AT MELTON
WEEK 6	MAR 2 – MAR 6 MONDAY FRIDAY	
WEEK 7	MAR 9 – MAR 13 MONDAY TUESDAY	LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY WESTERN RANGES SWIMMING AT MELTON WAVES
WEEK 8	MAR 16 – MAR 20 MONDAY FRIDAY	
WEEK 9	MAR 23 – MAR 27 MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY	ASSEMBLY Year 6 Ecolinc Year 6 Ecolinc Senior Sports Day
WEEK 10	MAR 30 – APR 3 MONDAY TUESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	Year 6 Ecolinc Western Metropolitan Region Swimming Final Day of term – 2.30 pm dismissal GOOD FRIDAY

Dear parents and carers,

Your engagement with our 'Getting to Know You Interview' process was very much appreciated, and we hope our students and yourselves are feeling prepared and supported for term 1, following this opportunity.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

I was thrilled that Emeritus Professor Helen Cahill from the University of Melbourne, a renowned expert in child and youth wellbeing, specialising in social-emotional learning, resilience, and respectful relationships education, accepted my invitation to work with our staff last Thursday.

As a former lead researcher at the Youth Research Centre, she developed over 40 school-based programs, including the acclaimed "[Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships](#)"

[program](#) being implemented across Australian schools. Bacchus Marsh Primary School commenced implementation in semester 2, 2024, and Professor Cahill's insight and expertise, as we continue our implementation was grounding, inspiring and highly practical.



A PDF version of these resources is attached to this week's Update, and should you require more information you can visit the below link or speak with a member of our wellbeing team.

<https://www.schools.vic.gov.au/resilience-rights-and-respectful-relationships-and-building-respectful-relationships>

SAFETY MESSAGES

SCHOOL CROSSINGS – Thankyou for ensuring school crossings on Gisborne Road, Young Street and Lerderderg Street are used at all times.

Adult modelling of the important use of our crossings is vital in support of safety.

8.35 AM – YARD SUPERVISION – All students will be receiving reminders that 8.35 am is the morning arrival time and when our yard will be supervised by staff.

Students arriving before 8.35 am will be directed to the undercover area near the staff room and are to remain there until they are dismissed by a staff member.

Breakfast Club will be available from 8.00 am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from our school house and can be accessed via the Lerderderg Street driveway. Students will be dismissed from Breakfast Club at 8.35 am.

SUNSMART HATS – Last week gave all families the opportunity to have hats ready and named to ensure play is not restricted. Teachers will be rigorous with hat routines to support our students to be responsible with their belongings. Students without hats will be directed to the undercover area for passive play.

HELMETS – See the below message reinforcing the importance of bike and scooter helmets

- Thankyou for partnering with us to ensure these safety routines are respected.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Wearing a helmet when riding a bicycle reduces the risk of head injury by 74%.
- Head injuries are very common for skateboarders not wearing helmets.
- Every year in Victoria, about 250 children are hospitalised as a result of scooter accidents, with head injuries common.

THE SIMPLE HELMET FIT CHECK



Two finger widths above the eyebrows.



Helmet straps must be correctly adjusted with no twists. The straps should form a 'V' shape around the ears.



The buckle fastened and two fingers can fit under chin strap.



If the helmet moves out of position easily it is not correctly fitted – straps are loose or helmet is too big.



ROAD TO ZERO

HELMETS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



GUIDE FOR PARENTS

ROADTOZERO.VIC.GOV.AU

CHILDREN AND ADULTS SHOULD WEAR A HELMET AT ALL TIMES WHILE RIDING A BICYCLE, SCOOTER OR SKATEBOARD.



Set a good example

Children's behaviour is shaped by what their parents/carers do. When it comes to wearing a helmet while riding a bicycle, scooter or skateboard, you need to be a good role model for your own and other children.

Make sure your helmet is safe

- Choose a helmet that carries the Australian Standard mark. This means it is safety approved, legal and meets the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2063.
- If possible, choose a helmet with Multi-Directional Impact Protection System (MIPS) technology. A MIPS helmet has a low friction layer between the helmet and the head, designed to reduce brain trauma in the event of a crash. For more information, visit www.mipsprotection.com
- The helmet needs to be the right size and correctly fitted. See the Helmet Fit Check in this guide.
- A helmet is designed to protect a head for one impact only. Replace it if it has been in an accident, dropped or has any damage, such as cracks in the foam or worn or frayed straps.
- Don't wear a cap under a helmet as this can affect how the helmet fits and protects the head in an accident.

The law on bicycle helmets

It's against the law to ride without a helmet. The fine for not wearing a helmet is \$201 (as at 1 January 2019).

Other safety gear for skateboarding

Falls can be common so wrist guards and knee and elbow pads are strongly advised to reduce injuries.



Find safer places to cycle, scoot and skate

- For younger children, the safest places to ride, scoot and skate are the backyard or a park, well away from traffic. Driveways are not safe places for play.
- Children under 12 years of age shouldn't ride on the road. They are allowed to ride on footpaths and adults can legally ride with them.
- Victoria has an extensive network of paths for safer cycling, scooting and skating. Many of these paths travel through parklands and are well away from roads.

Where to get more information

This guide provides broad road safety advice only. For more comprehensive information about Victorian laws regarding the use of bicycles, scooters and skateboards, visit vicroads.vic.gov.au.



ONGOING CONSISTENT MESSAGES:

DROP OFF ZONE – off Young Street

- CARS **MUST NOT PARK** IN THE DROP-OFF ZONE AS IT IS A KISS AND DROP AREA ONLY.
- VEHICLES ARE NOT TO BE LEFT UNATTENDED IN THIS SPACE
- PLEASE DO NOT ACCESS THE STAFF CARPARK AREA AT ANY TIME.

LERDERBERG STREET ENTRANCE

Thank you for your ongoing support with these changes:

- STUDENTS DO NOT USE THE FRONT ENTRANCE AS A THOROUGHFARE INTO OR OUT OF THE SCHOOL
- THE DRIVEWAY GATE ALONGSIDE THE ART ROOM WILL BE THE BREAKFAST CLUB AND MORNING ENTRANCE POINT
- PREP ENTRANCE WILL BE OPEN FROM 8.35 AM
- STUDENTS ARRIVING BEFORE 8.35 AM ARE ASKED TO WAIT IN THE UNDERCOVER AREA UNTIL DISMISSED.
- **FORMAL YARD SUPERVISION COMMENCES AT 8.35 AM**

HATS TO BE WORN FOR ALL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN TERM 1

Ongoing reminder that navy blue SunSmart hats must be worn by all students in the yard during term 1 and 4.





BUS ZONES ON LERDERDERG STREET

All of the yellow line markings on the north and south sides of the street indicate **NO PARKING** before or after school to allow our buses to safely enter and exit the zone to collect our students.

Pulling up at the Prep entrance gate to collect students on Lerderderg Street is contravening the safety signage and impacting pedestrian and vehicle vision on our crossing. This blatantly ignores the safety rights of our school community.



**PLEASE DO NOT PARK
OVER DRIVEWAYS.**

**OUR NEIGHBOURS
HAVE ALWAYS
APPRECIATED THE
RESPECTFUL MANNER
IN WHICH OUR
COMMUNITY LIVE
OUR VALUES**

ALWAYS REACH OUT

- Thank you to parents and carers for reaching out to your child's classroom teacher or any of our staff below, if we can assist in any way.

Melinda Williams – Principal

Leanne Holt – Business Manager

Wellbeing:

Daniel Morris - Assistant Principal - Wellbeing & Engagement / Disability Inclusion

Liz Stonka – Assistant Principal – Daily Organisation / Student Medical Health & Wellbeing

Tiff O'Brien – Leading Teacher – Mental Health in Primary Schools – Trauma Informed Practice - Art-Therapy

Bec Blokland - Disability Inclusion Co-ordinator

Belinda Horne - Wellbeing Educator

Literacy and Numeracy:

Catherine Moody – Assistant Principal - Curriculum / Teaching and Learning

Kirsty Younger - Leading Teacher – Literacy

Janaya Walker and Jayde Clayton – Leading Teachers – Numeracy

All the best for a wonderful week 2 from the BMPS team

NEW YEAR

NEW LOO

Bring a toilet roll
to Peppertree Park
on Saturday 7 Feb
and join the
campaign for a
Parkrun Loo!



