



# Nar Nar Goon Primary School

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## WELCOME BACK for 2026!

To all returning families, we welcome you back to our school and hope that you have had a wonderful break.

To our new families, we hope you settle in quickly and feel proud to be in our school community. Our students have begun the year brilliantly, with a settled and happy playground and purposeful classrooms. Our Golden Rule of making sure we *"Treat others as you would like to be treated"*, is taken very seriously here, and we work hard to create a respectful and supportive environment for all members of our community.

We welcome Kaelan Loomes and Chantelle Hughes, officially to the school. Kaelan is working 4 days a week, with Chantelle Hughes, our new STEM teacher, taking his class on a Thursday. These new staff join our already fabulous team. Our Specialist teachers are:

Keira Vukovic is back to working 2 days and will teach Auslan across the school. Yolande Kerin will be teaching Physical Education and coordinating our Senior Sports. Andrea Loulier will continue ART, and Chantelle Hughes will take each grade for an hour of STEM each week. Trevor Lowe has retired as our Handyman/Gardener, and we welcome Shane Lloyd to the role. You may see both in the school for a month or so for handover.

The beginning of each year is an important time to set up expectations, routines and begin relationships. Our program Bright Beginnings is enacted across the school and allows all classrooms to work with rigour on our school values, our Behaviour Education Process and our Respectful Relationships programs. The Play Is The Way program has ceased business, however, we know how valuable their ideology and the support materials, including the games have been to support student growth and we have absorbed them into our School Values. Over the next few weeks (and ongoing) our students will be learning about how to learn, and work with others in the best ways, as well as how to manage themselves in all kinds of situations. We will be spending a great deal of time setting up the ideal conditions for students and staff, learning new and expected routines and appropriate behaviours to enable maximum learning opportunities. Consistent routines for entering, exiting and moving around the classroom, as well as Tracking the Speaker, and Calls To Attention are all critical to support student engagement and focus.

This first issue is a long one, as there is some important information included. Next issue, we will meet our School, House and SRC Captains. There is a calendar of term events in this issue and every issue moving forward. Keep checking on this.

Our first School Council is booked for Week 6, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and I will be posting some information on Sentral regarding the AGM and the School Council members for 2026.

I am looking forward to another fantastic school year!

Jacqui, and the staff 😊

# TERM 1 2026 DATES

## Calendar Dates for Term 1 2026 - 28<sup>th</sup> January – 2 April

### January

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> – Teachers start school

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> – First day for ALL students – including Foundation 2026

### February

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Year 5/6 Interschool Sport at home vs Kurrum PS

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> – History Box Incursion for whole school – no charge

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> – Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival at KWR Pool from 12pm – details on Sentral

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Interschool Sport Away vs Pakenham Hills PS

- PAFA AGM 9.15 in the Staffroom

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> – SCHOOL PHOTOS first thing in the morning – **more info sent home next week**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Interschool Sport Home vs Pakenham Springs PS

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – District Swimming for Qualifiers only

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Interschool Sport Away vs Pakenham Lakeside PS

### March

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – School Council AGM and meeting 1 at 4.30 in Staffroom

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Welcome Night and BBQ – 4-6.30 at school – **flyer to come**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Interschool Sport – BYE (new timetable)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY – no students at school

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Year 5/6 Interschool Sport Away vs Officer PS

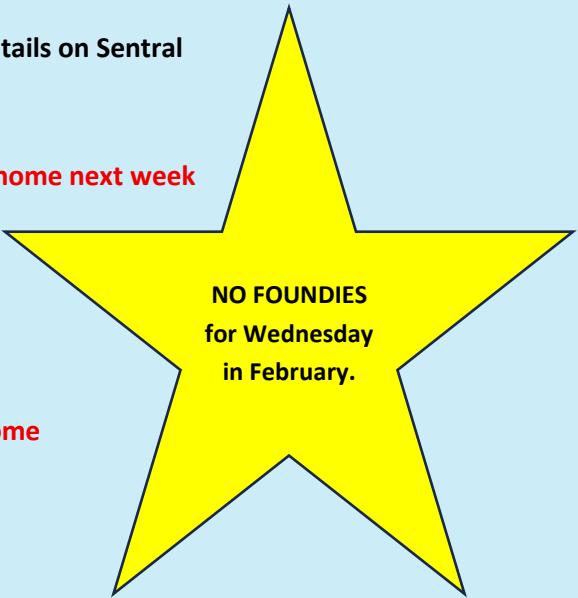
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Division Swimming for Qualifiers only

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Year 5/6 Lightning Premiership Day – all day

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Easter Canteen

- House Cross Country from 11.30am - **more info to come**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> – School Council Meeting 2 at 4.30 in the staffroom



### April

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> – Colour Run – from 2.30 **more info to come**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Hot Cross Bun Meal Deal Day and Easter Raffle drawn

- Final day of Term 1, 3.30 finish

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

As we start the school year, I would like to remind you of the following important information:

### ABSENCES

Student absences must be reported to the school before 9:00 am on the day of absence with an explanation for the absence. This is a legal requirement, and staff will follow up daily any families who have not reported their child's absence to us. If your child is absent, legally, we MUST have a reason, and we will

notify you **EVERY** day your child is not at school. Please respond to our messages through the Sentral Parent Portal so we can accurately track student attendance. Please do everything you can to avoid both student absences and late arrivals/early departures. The best place to record absences is Sentral. When submitting online absence forms please ensure you provide us with details to enable us to determine whether they will be reported to the Regional Office as "school approved".

**School Approved** – Illness/medical, Religious/cultural observance, Bereavement, Family holiday (with principal approval), Unforeseen Circumstances, Ill family member.

**School Unapproved** - No explanation provided by parent. Student absent due to participating in leisure or social activities such as shopping, a child's birthday, visiting relatives or friends. A day off for no valid reason. No approval given by principal to attend family holiday (requires an absence learning plan with Principal's signature).

**PLEASE REFER TO THE NAR NAR GOON PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY LOCATED ON THE 'ABOUT US/POLICIES' TAB ON OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.**

### **BUS TRAVEL**

As in previous years, ALL EXISTING bus travellers for 2026 must reapply for travel on the Student Travel Assistance Program. New travellers will also need to apply online. Bus travellers will not be able to use the bus service unless applications are approved. [Home](#)

If your child is not travelling home by the bus, PLEASE notify the office so we can mark them off.

### **CURRICULUM PROGRAMS FOR 2026**

This year we will be continuing to embed the department's Victorian Teaching and Learning Model 2.0 (VTLM2.0) which identifies and embeds evidence-based practices; prioritises explicit, sequential, and systematic approaches; and includes a school-wide approach to fostering a supportive and enabling learning environment. We are using the Phonics Plus program to teach key phonics skills to our juniors. The program provides a progression of learning of letters (graphemes) and their corresponding sounds (phonemes) to decode words and develop morphological knowledge. Teaching also includes spelling patterns, morphology, high-frequency words, handwriting and reading fluency.

We have removed Open Learning Numeracy from our program in favour of a rich, whole-school approach to mathematics which ensures students gain key skills, develop deep understandings and mastery, and focuses on ensuring students gain the ability to reason, make connections and think flexibly.

Aside from our Literacy and Numeracy, we continue to prioritise wellbeing, general knowledge and our specialist subject of ART, Physical Education, and STEM. Rachael Kent will provide an Intervention program for Literacy, with some of our Education Support staff, and we offer VHAP (the Victorian High Abilities Program) for senior students in Literacy and Numeracy. A selection of promising Year 1-6 students will participate in APSMO (Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads).

## INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Schools are places where technology is used as a resource and as such the children will be working through numerous discussions and activities in class to raise their awareness of how to be safe on the internet. We are also organising some learning opportunities for the children to take part through the "Kids Helpline" organisation.

I would like to remind all parents that we have a very stringent ICT Code of Conduct in place for students whilst accessing ICT at school. However, there have been occasions in past years, where students have accessed ICT social networks/messaging at home and have caused great emotional upset by texting inappropriate messages to each other. We rely on your support as parents to please monitor your child's computer/handheld device use to ensure ICT is being utilised responsibly at home, thus avoiding problems that inevitably spill into the school yard between friends. I always tell the children not to text/post on social media anything to anyone that you would not say to them face to face. There are helpful links on our website to support parents in keeping children safe online under the "Links" tab. (Please keep in mind that it is illegal for a child under the age of 16 to access Social Media.)

## LOST PROPERTY

You will find our rack of lost property just outside the office in the playground. We keep lost items for a month, then send the unclaimed items to charity. Any named items are returned to the classroom teacher. Please ensure all of your child's items are clearly named.

## LUNCH ORDERS

When filling in your lunch orders please remember to clearly mark the envelope with the child's name and their class. It is preferred that you send your child's lunch order via the school rather than directly to the shop. No lunch orders will be accepted after 10.30am. Any child who forgets their lunch order will be offered a sandwich by staff. Please provide a brown paper bag as this will incur an extra 10c charge to provide.

## MOBILE PHONES

It is Education Department policy that Mobile Phones are not to be used by students at school. This includes on excursions, after school events, camps and whilst entering or exiting the school or waiting for the bus. All mobile phones **MUST** be brought to the office at the beginning of the school day and collected at the end of the day.

## OUTSIDE HOURS SCHOOL CARE

We use Their Care as our provider of Before, After, Curriculum Day and School Holiday Care. Please log onto their website to begin an account with them. [TheirCare | Where Kids Love To Be](http://TheirCare.com)

## PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Personal property is often brought to school by students and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

## PRIVACY INFORMATION

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or, where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website

[www.narnargoonpsvic.edu.au](http://www.narnargoonpsvic.edu.au) For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents on the Victorian Education Department website. This information is also available in nine community languages.

## SCHOOL HATS/SUNSMART

As a SunSmart school the children are expected to wear a wide brimmed bucket hat in a dark navy-blue colour (school logo optional) during the Daylight Savings months (**September 1st-May 1st**). This is in line with our School Council Uniform policy. Any child without a school approved hat will be required to play in a shaded area of the school.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is our school's policy that all students wear school uniform.

Our school uniform is:

### Summer

Girls: Blue check dress, navy blue shorts, pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt.

Boys: Navy blue shorts, pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt

ALL STUDENTS MUST wear a wide brimmed bucket hat in a dark navy-blue colour (school logo optional) from September 1- May 1.

### Winter

Girls: Navy blue track suits, navy blue windcheater with pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt or skivvy

Boys: Navy blue track suits, navy blue windcheater with pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt or skivvy.

Our uniform is available from Beleza, Bald Hill Road, Pakenham 5941 4989.

As a cheaper alternative we have iron on school logos in blue or white available for purchase (\$1.00 each) from the office, if required.

Denim jeans and other coloured tops are not acceptable. Dangly earrings and false nails are not acceptable

as they pose a danger to students.

Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times -toeless shoes are not permitted

### STUDENT SUPERVISION

Please be aware that staff are on yard duty in the playground from 8:45 am before school and until 3:45 pm after school. Students travelling on late buses are supervised in front of the office until the final bus leaves. For your own child's safety, it is recommended that children do not arrive at school before 8:45 am.

### STUDENT MESSAGES:

If you have a message for your child that needs to be communicated to them before the end of the day, could you please do so BEFORE 3:15pm. We only make one call over the PA for children who have messages to come over to the office in our efforts to *minimise interruptions to the classrooms*. This occurs at 3:15pm and if left any later, there is no guarantee that we can deliver your message. If you need to deliver a forgotten lunch box/drink bottle or other item, please contact the office and the staff will happily organise for your items to be taken over to the classrooms.

### STUDENT INSURANCE

Please be aware that the Education Department does not cover students for accidents in the school grounds, nor does it cover for Ambulance costs should the need to call an ambulance be necessary. I would therefore encourage all families, to please consider making personal insurance and ambulance cover arrangements for all their children.

### VISITORS

We would respectfully ask that every person who comes onto the school grounds between the hours of 9:15am and 3:15pm does so through the main office to ensure that we know who is on the school grounds at all times. All visitors, including parent helpers, MUST visit the office and sign in the visitor's book before they visit classrooms or other places within the school.

If you have a message for your child or an item that needs to be delivered to the classroom, please ask the office staff to pass it on rather than interrupt the class and/or the teacher during instruction time. Without a WWCC lanyard or Visitors badge, anyone on the property will be redirected to the front office

All volunteers in the school must have a Working with Children Check. They are free of charge for volunteers and are a requirement for all adults entering our school buildings. To apply for a WWCC please use this link <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

### TRAFFIC SAFETY

Drive into Spencer Street (keeping in mind there are designated "No Standing" Zones in specific areas). Drive to the second driveway that leads to the football ground, turn right into this carpark and exit

from the top driveway back into Spencer Street. If everyone follows this plan, the traffic (including buses) will move smoothly in a loop. The carpark across the road at the football ground is a designated parent parking space. Please be patient and remember to look out for all children as they move in and around traffic.

**Under no circumstances should a car drive into the first driveway. Please do not park near the entrance and exit driveways as buses find it hard to enter and leave the driveways.**

All school community members must use the school crossing to model expected behaviours. There is a 40kph speed restriction in place around the school and there are "No Parking" signs that must be adhered to. You CAN NOT park within 20 metres of the crossing. Parking officers from the Cardinia Shire and Police are also contacted to support our endeavours to keep our students safe.

**The bus parking areas, which are clearly signed, must be kept clear during drop off and pick up time.**

TRAFFIC FLOW: BLACK ARROWS INDICATE TRAFFIC FLOW. IE: DRIVE EAST DOWN SPENCER STREET AND LOOP THROUGH THE RECREATION RESERVE CARPARK. NO STANDING ZONES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN RED.



The procedure in place for parents dropping off/collecting children from school, is to drive Eastwards down Spencer Street and park on the side of the road on Spencer Street *before the school crossing*. There are **NO STANDING** clearways either side of the school crossing and **NO STANDING** zones on both sides of the road immediately outside the school. (see red lines in diagram above.) Drive to the second driveway that leads to the football ground, turn right into this carpark and exit from the top driveway back into Spencer Street. Do not proceed into the bowl of the court. The carpark across the road at the football ground is a designated parent parking space and the designated staff park is outside the Scout Hall carpark.



If you have not already downloaded the Sentral App for parents, please do so from the Apple or Google Play store.

## CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Nar Nar Goon Primary School is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as our staff and volunteers. We are committed to the safety, participation, and empowerment of all children.



We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently with our robust policies and procedures. If you would like more information please go to the 'Wellbeing' or 'Policies' tab on our website where you will find our Child Safe Policy and/or further information and resources go to: <https://www.vic.gov.au/protect>

## FEEDBACK

Your feedback is important to us. If you have a concern or would like to raise a complaint as a parent, please speak to the classroom teacher in the first instance, and the PLC Leader in the second instance (ie: Foundation: Jodie Williamson, Years 1-2: Elise Bradley, Years 3-4: Daniel Mason, Years 5/6: Candice Walton). Please understand that after 8.45, approaching staff for a chat can be problematic. Please make an appointment for a preferable time. Otherwise, please contact the Principal Jacqui Cutler, or Assistant Principal Mirella Irving by calling the office to arrange an appointment.



## Medications at School

Our Medications Policy states that for any child requiring medication at school, a Medication Form needs to be filled in. This form is for when your child requires 'incidental' and short-term medication at school—eg antibiotics, pain relief. These forms are available at the office to fill in and hand to your child's teacher.

**No child is to keep medication in their school bag.**



Our school uses Seesaw to communicate with families, showcase student work and enable a positive home/school partnership. Twice a term you will also see Learning Snapshots on your child's Seesaw page which will demonstrate what your child can do in either Literacy, Numeracy or Wellbeing/Social capabilities. We love you to comment or respond to your child's learning, the children get a huge confidence boost also.

#### Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy [2024, Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy.docx](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's use please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#).

This information is also available in eleven community languages:

- Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Dari, Gujarati, Mandarin, Somali, Sudanese, Turkish and Urdu

#### WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

All volunteers in the school must have a Working with Children Check. They are free of charge for volunteers and are a requirement for all adults entering our school buildings. To apply for a WWCC please use this link

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

Thank You

# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

## INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

**If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.**

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

**If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.**

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>

